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# ANNUAL REPORT

*of*

## The Medical Officer of Health

*and*

## The Chief Public Health Inspector

*for the*

Year Ended 31st December, 1959

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R. W. FARQUHAR, B.Sc.(Agri.), M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF
THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Public Health Department,
Thurnham Street,
Lancaster.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour of presenting for your consideration the annual report on the health, sanitary conditions and circumstances of the City of Lancaster in respect of the year ended 31st December, 1959.

The estimated population at mid-year 1959 was 49,090, a decrease of 60 from the previous year, and 2,571 or 5 per cent. less than the 1951 census figure of 51,661.

The 833 deaths assigned to the City represented an adjusted mortality rate of 12·9 per 1,000 population, compared with the national rate of 11·6.

Heart diseases, responsible for two-fifths of the total deaths during the year, continue to preponderate amongst the principal causes of death, and within this group the proportion classified to "coronary disease, angina" has steadily increased in recent years.

Of the total deaths 29, or 3·5 per cent., were caused by accidents or other forms of violence. It is a sad reflection on the times in which we live that for the last 10 years deaths from violence have persistently ranked fifth amongst the principal causes of death.

In 1959 lung cancer caused the deaths of 21 persons, of whom 18 were males, representing 2·5 per cent. of the total deaths and 18 per cent. of all cancer deaths. Local statistics over the last decade show the same increased mortality from respiratory cancer as is shown by the national figure and those of many countries of Western Europe. No reasonable person can now be in doubt that cigarette smoking is responsible for this increased incidence.

The most impressive evidence of medical achievement in this country during the past two decades has been the substantial reduction of infant and maternal mortality. The more favourable trend in infant mortality in Lancaster over the past four years can be seen in Table 6, the death rate in 1959 at 21 per 1,000 live births again being below the national rate. There could be a still further saving of infant lives if the peri-natal mortality of infants, which comprises still births and first week deaths, could be reduced. In 1959 such losses were equivalent to 35·8 per 1,000 live and still births in the City.

There were no maternal deaths in Lancaster in 1959 and the national maternal mortality rate reached a new low level of 0·38 per 1,000 total births. A long term view of maternal mortality is given in Table 5.

Apart from a moderate outbreak of influenza in February and March the general health of the community remained satisfactory throughout the year. The pattern of morbidity in the working population in the Lancaster area is well brought out in the graph facing page 19 which shows the number of new cases of sickness arising each week of the year. It is interesting to note that, despite the exceptionally long warm summer of 1959, the average weekly incidence of sickness in the adult working population was the second highest since 1954. Amongst young children also we had the biggest outbreak of measles in the last 25 years. Dysentery and food poisoning, on the other hand, fell to their lowest levels for some years.

Steady progress is being made in the various schemes of immunisation and vaccination which afford protection against diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, poliomyelitis, tuberculosis and smallpox. Detailed figures have been included in the report.

The section of the report dealing with the sanitary circumstances of the area contains much information appertaining to the routine, though seldom spectacular, work of the Department but which contributes so much to maintaining and improving standards in the physical environment in which we live, work and play. The Chief Public Health Inspector comments on the progress made in slum clearance and re-development, discusses the probable number of small council houses which still need to be built and draws attention to the many difficulties yet to be faced in seeking to improve living standards in the large number of houses let in lodgings, where new slums are already developing.

For more than a decade the proportion of old people in the population of the City has been steadily rising as it has been throughout the country generally, and an increasing proportion of the national resources has had to be devoted to this vulnerable group. To be able to continue living independently in their own homes as long as possible is what old people generally prize above all else. In Lancaster at present, far too many of them are unsuitably housed in large houses, or are living with younger relatives, or in rooms, or find themselves obliged to seek admission to communal homes because of a lack of houses suitably designed for elderly and aged persons.

Although it is not possible at present to give an exact estimate of the total number of one-bedroomed dwellings, which will be required over the next few years to suit the needs of old people and also single persons of a younger age, what is quite clear is that, so far as the first category only is concerned, there is an urgent and immediate need for 50 bungalows or flatlets. I have no doubt that by the time this report has been published the City Council will have made a favourable decision on this important matter.

I take this opportunity of expressing my appreciation of the conscientious work of the Health Department staff and my pleasure in the continued interest and support of the Health Committee in its work.

Yours faithfully,

R. W. FARQUHAR,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

SECTION "A"

# STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

## SUMMARY OF STATISTICS — 1959

| | |
|---|---|
| Area (in acres) | 5,036 |
| Population (Registrar-General's estimate) mid-year, 1959 | 49,090 |
| Number of Inhabited Houses according to Rate Books | 14,174 |
| Rateable Value | £623,475 |
| Sum represented by a Penny Rate | £2,515 |

| LIVE BIRTHS | *Males* | *Females* | *Total* |
|---|---|---|---|
| Legitimate | 362 | 358 | 720 |
| Illegitimate | 23 | 20 | 43 |
| Total | 385 | 378 | 763 |
| Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 population | | | 15·5 |
| Adusted Birth Rate per 1,000 population | | | 16·8 |
| Illegitimate Live Births per cent. of total live births | | | 5·6 |
| STILL BIRTHS | *Males* | *Females* | *Total* |
| Legitimate | 5 | 13 | 18 |
| Illegitimate | — | 1 | 1 |
| Total | 5 | 14 | 19 |
| Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births | | | 24·3 |
| TOTAL LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS | 390 | 392 | 782 |
| DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE | *Males* | *Females* | *Total* |
| Legitimate | 4 | 7 | 11 |
| Illegitimate | 3 | 2 | 5 |
| Total | 7 | 9 | 16 |
| Total Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 total live births | | | 21·0 |
| Legitimate Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 total legitimate live births | | | 15·3 |
| Illegitimate Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 total illegitimate live births | | | 116·3 |
| | *Males* | *Females* | *Total* |
| DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 4 WEEKS OF AGE | 4 | 8 | 12 |
| Neo-Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total live births | | | 15·7 |
| | *Males* | *Females* | *Total* |
| DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 WEEK OF AGE | 3 | 6 | 9 |
| Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total live births | | | 11·8 |
| | *Males* | *Females* | *Total* |
| DEATHS OF INFANTS IN FIRST WEEK PLUS STILL BIRTHS | 8 | 20 | 28 |
| Perinatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total live and stil births | | | 35·8 |
| DEATHS FROM MATERNAL CAUSES | | | Nil |
| Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total live and still births | | | Nil |
| | *Males* | *Females* | *Total* |
| TOTAL DEATHS (ALL CAUSES) | 390 | 443 | 833 |
| Crude Death Rate per 1,000 population | | | 17·0 |
| Adjusted Death Rate per 1,000 population | | | 12·9 |

**Table 1**

## DEATHS IN THE CITY OF LANCASTER DURING 1959
## CLASSIFIED BY CAUSE AND SEX

| *Causes* | *Males* | *Females* | *Total* |
|---|---|---|---|
| Tuberculosis, Respiratory ... ... ... | 7 | 2 | 9 |
| Tuberculosis, Other ... ... ... ... | — | — | — |
| Syphilitic Disease ... ... ... ... | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| Diphtheria ... ... ... ... ... | — | — | — |
| Whooping Cough ... ... ... ... | — | — | — |
| Meningococcal Infections ... ... ... | — | — | — |
| Acute Poliomyelitis ... ... ... ... | — | — | — |
| Measles ... ... ... ... ... | — | — | — |
| Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases ... | 1 | — | 1 |
| Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach ... ... | 6 | 14 | 20 |
| Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus ... | 18 | 3 | 21 |
| Malignant Neoplasm, Breast ... ... | — | 11 | 11 |
| Malignant Neoplas, Uterus ... ... ... | — | 7 | 7 |
| Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms | 33 | 20 | 53 |
| Leukaemia, Aleukaemia ... ... ... | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Diabetes ... ... ... ... ... | 2 | — | 2 |
| Vascular Lesions of Nervous System ... | 60 | 84 | 144 |
| Coronary Disease, Angina ... ... ... | 92 | 77 | 169 |
| Hypertension with Heart Disease ... ... | 11 | 13 | 24 |
| Other Heart Disease ... ... ... ... | 33 | 72 | 105 |
| Other Circulatory Disease ... ... ... | 15 | 22 | 37 |
| Influenza ... ... ... ... ... | 14 | 3 | 17 |
| Pneumonia ... ... ... ... ... | 19 | 30 | 49 |
| Bronchitis ... ... ... ... ... | 12 | 18 | 30 |
| Other Diseases of Respiratory System ... | 5 | 3 | 8 |
| Ulcer of Stomach and Duedenum ... ... | 2 | 3 | 5 |
| Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea ... ... | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| Nephritis and Nephrosis ... ... ... | 4 | 2 | 6 |
| Hyperplasia of Prostate ... ... ... | 6 | — | 6 |
| Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion ... ... | — | — | — |
| Congenital Malformations ... ... ... | — | 3 | 3 |
| Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases ... | 26 | 42 | 68 |
| Motor Vehicle Accidents ... ... ... | 7 | 4 | 11 |
| All Other Accidents ... ... ... ... | 7 | 6 | 13 |
| Suicide ... ... ... ... ... | 4 | 1 | 5 |
| Homicide and Operations of War ... ... | — | — | — |
| TOTAL DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES ... | 390 | 443 | 833 |

| DEATHS FROM CERTAIN SPECIFIED DISEASES | *Deaths* | *Rate per 1,000 est. population* |
|---|---|---|
| Cancer (all forms) ... ... ... | 114 | 2·32 |
| Tuberculosis (respiratory) ... ... | 9 | 0·18 |

**Table 2**

## DEATHS CLASSIFIED BY AGE GROUP AND LOCALITY—1959

| WARD | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 10 | 15 | 20 | 35 | 45 | 65 | 75 | 80 | Total All Ages |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bulk ... ... ... ... | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 2 | 52 | 65 | 54 | 63 | 238* |
| Castle ... ... ... ... | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | 16 | 28 | 10 | 16 | 74 |
| John O'Gaunt ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 14 | 26 | 10 | 17 | 68 |
| Park ... ... ... ... | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 2 | 3 | 22 | 33 | 37 | 59 | 159* |
| St. Anne's ... ... ... | 3 | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | 4 | 1 | 18 | 10 | 7 | 11 | 55 |
| Scotforth ... ... ... ... | 1 | — | 1 | — | 1 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 7 | 25 | 25 | 14 | 18 | 100 |
| Skerton Central ... ... ... | 3 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | 15 | 16 | 11 | 8 | 55 |
| Skerton East ... ... ... | 1 | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | 1 | — | — | 6 | 12 | 3 | 7 | 31 |
| Skerton West ... ... ... | 3 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 14 | 14 | 7 | 14 | 53 |
| Total ... ... ... | 16 | — | 1 | — | 1 | 2 | 2 | 7 | 8 | 19 | 182 | 229 | 153 | 213 | 833 |

*Includes 286 deaths assigned to the City which occurred in Institutions.

**Table 3**

## LANCASTER VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1959 AND THE PERIOD 1954-1958

| Mid-Year | Estimated Home Population | Live Births | | Deaths (all causes) | | Stillbirths | | Maternal Mortality | | Infant Mortality | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | | | Total | | Neo-natal | |
| | | No. regis-tered | Crude Rate per 1,000 pop'n | No. regis-tered | Crude Rate per 1,000 pop'n | No. regis-tered | Rate per 1,000 total births | No. of deaths regis-tered | Rate per 1,000 total births | No. of deaths regis-tered | Rate per 1,000 Live births | No. of deaths regis-tered | Rate per 1,000 births Live |
| 1959 | 49,090 | 763 | *15·5 | 833 | *17·0 | 19 | 24·3 | Nil | Nil | 16 | 21 | 12 | 15·7 |
| 1958 | 49,150 | 762 | 15·5 | 753 | 15·3 | 13 | 17 | Nil | Nil | 14 | 18 | 10 | 13 |
| 1957 | 49,330 | 702 | 14·2 | 802 | 16·3 | 12 | 17 | 1 | 1·40 | 21 | 30 | 12 | 17 |
| 1956 | 49,530 | 655 | 13·2 | 750 | 15·1 | 7 | 11 | 1 | 1·51 | 18 | 27 | 10 | 15 |
| 1955 | 49,750 | 709 | 14·3 | 763 | 15·3 | 15 | 21 | 1 | 1·38 | 23 | 32 | 13 | 18 |
| 1954 | 49,910 | 636 | 12·7 | 689 | 13·8 | 15 | 23 | Nil | Nil | 28 | 44 | 21 | 33 |
| Average 5 years, 1954-58 | | | 14·0 | — | 15·2 | — | 18 | — | ·86 | — | 30 | — | 19 |

*Adjusted live birth-rate for 1959 (comparability factor 1·08) = (16·8 per 1,000).

*Adjusted death-rate for 1958 (comparability factor 0·76) = 12·9 per 1,000).

## COMMENTS ON VITAL STATISTICS

### Population

The Registrar General's estimate of the home population at mid-year 1959 was 49,090, a decrease of 60 from the 1958 figure. The population at the 1951 census was 51,661 and since then the estimated figures have indicated a fairly steady decline each year, amounting in total to a loss in population of 2,571 or 5 per cent.

The excess of deaths over live births during this same period of years is sufficient to account for only a small part of the estimated decrease in the population of the City, which must therefore mainly be attributed to migration.

### Births

In 1959 there were 763 registered live births assignable to the City of Lancaster, representing a crude birth rate of 15·5 per 1,000 population, a figure exactly equal to the 1958 rate. In order to compare local with national birth and death rates an adjustment must be made to the former to allow for differences in age and sex distribution. The adjusted birth rate for Lancaster in 1959 was 16·8 per 1,000 population, which may be compared with the crude rate for England and Wales (16·5) and with the adjusted rate for the Administrative County (16·7). Table 3 shows the crude birth rate in Lancaster for the previous 5 years.

Of the 763 live births 43, or 5·6 per cent. were illegitimate, compared with 6·7 per cent. in the previous year.

### Deaths

Deaths from all causes numbered 833, 80 more than in the previous year, corresponding to a crude death rate of 17·0 per 1,000 population. The death rate " area comparability factor " has been specifically adjusted to take account of the presence of any residential institutions within the city area. Thus Lancaster's adjusted death rate was 12·9 per 1,000 which may be compared with the crude rate for England and Wales of 11·6 per 1,000. The adjusted rate for the Administrative County in 1959 was 13·8 per 1,000, mortality in the North Western region being consistently higher than in more favourable regions in the South and therefore exceeding the national figure.

Table 1 shows the deaths classified by cause and sex under the 36 main headings used by the Registrar-General, but the relative importance of the principal causes may be more clearly seen from the table overleaf.

| Principal Causes of Death | 1958 |  | 1959 |  |
|---|---|---|---|---|
|  | No. of Deaths | Percent. of Total | No. of Deaths | Percent. of Total |
| Heart and Circulatory Diseases ... ... ... | 294 | 39·1 | 335 | 40·2 |
| Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System ... | 102 | 13·6 | 144 | 17·2 |
| Cancer (including Leukaemia) ... ... ... ... | 114 | 15·1 | 114 | 13·7 |
| Respiratory Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis) | 117 | 15·5 | 104 | 12·5 |
| Violence (including motor vehicle accidents) | 34 | 4·4 | 29 | 3·5 |
| Diseases of the Digestive System ... ... ... | 8 | 1·1 | 8 | 1·0 |
| Diseases of the Kidney and Prostate ... ... ... | 7 | 0·9 | 12 | 1·5 |
| Tuberculosis (all forms) ... ... ... ... ... | 2 | 0·3 | 9 | 1·1 |
| Infective Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis) ... | 5 | 0·7 | 5 | 0·6 |
| All other causes ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 70 | 9·3 | 73 | 8·7 |
| Total ... ... ... ... | 753 | 100·0 | 833 | 100·0 |

### Heart Disease

Disease of the heart and circulatory system again appeared as the most common cause of death and in this group coronary thrombosis continues to be the chief culprit. Adequate scientific evidence concerning the exact causation of this disease is still lacking, but relative over-consumption of food (especially animal fat), associated with reduced physical activity in early and middle adult life, and excessive smoking, appear from the reports of several investigators to be the most significant factors. Moderation in living habits may yet prove to be the key to the prevention or control of coronary disease.

### Lung Cancer

Mortality from cancer of the lung and bronchus has greatly increased in Great Britain and certain other countries during the last 30 years. Deaths from this disease in the City in each of the last 10 years are shown in the table overleaf along with total deaths and deaths from all forms of cancer. It will be noted that during this period 158 males died from lung cancer compared with only 24 females. In 1959 the death rates from lung cancer in Lancaster, the Administrative County and England and Wales were respectively 0·52, 0·42 and 0·46 per 1,000 population.

The most reasonable interpretation of the very great increase in deaths from lung cancer in males during the past 30 years is that a major part of it is caused by smoking tobacco, particularly heavy cigarette smoking. Reliable evidence has shown that 1 in 8 of lifelong heavy smokers die of lung cancer, against 1 in 300 of non-smokers. Knowledge of the cause of cancer is still incomplete and other factors such as atmospheric pollution may also pay a contributory part. Meanwhile it is imperative to impress upon the young the dangers of cigarette smoking and to dissuade them from acquiring a habit which is harmful to health.

| Year | Total Deaths (all causes) | Deaths from Cancer (all forms) | Deaths from Cancer of Lung and Bronchus | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Males | Females | Total |
| 1950 | 611 | 85 | 8 | 2 | 10 |
| 1951 | 643 | 103 | 15 | 2 | 17 |
| 1952 | 652 | 104 | 12 | 3 | 15 |
| 1953 | 771 | 130 | 16 | 2 | 18 |
| 1954 | 689 | 117 | 19 | 2 | 21 |
| 1955 | 763 | 102 | 17 | — | 17 |
| 1956 | 750 | 124 | 13 | 3 | 16 |
| 1957 | 802 | 115 | 21 | 6 | 27 |
| 1958 | 753 | 114 | 19 | 1 | 20 |
| 1959 | 833 | 114 | 18 | 3 | 21 |
| Total 10 years | 7,267 | 1,108 | 158 | 24 | 182 |

## MATERNAL MORTALITY

Under the heading of "pregnancy, childbirth and abortion" no deaths were recorded in 1959. In Table 5 are set out the annual maternal mortality for Lancaster M.B., the Administrative County, and for England and Wales over the past ten years, but it should be noted that, owing to the smallness of the absolute figures for the City, it is perhaps unwise to overstress the differences in the respective maternal death rates. The national rate for 1959 reached a new low record of 0·38 per 1,000 total births.

At the instigation of the Ministry of Health in May, 1956, discussions were held at hospital group level between professional representatives of the hospital and specialist services, the local health authority services and the general practitioners to discuss toxaemia of pregnancy in relation to maternal mortality in their areas. Locally a Standing Obstetric Advisory Committee, of which your Medical Officer of Health is a member, was subsequently set up to keep this matter under review, particularly in regard to the standard of ante-natal care.

## Table 5

### Maternal Mortality, 1949-1959

Comparative Statement of Maternal Death Rates for Lancaster M.B., the Administrative County of Lancaster and England and Wales

| Year | Lancaster M.B. | | Lancs. Admin. County | | England & Wales |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | No. of Maternal Deaths | Mortality per 1,000 total births | No. of Maternal Deaths | Mortality per 1,000 total births | Mortality per 1,000 total births |
| 1959 | Nil | Nil | 19 | 0·52 | 0·38 |
| 1958 | Nil | Nil | 18 | 0·45 | 0·43 |
| 1957 | 1 | 1·40 | 20 | 0·58 | 0·47 |
| 1956 | 1 | 1·51 | 19 | 0·58 | 0·56 |
| 1955 | 1 | 1·38 | 40 | 1·31 | 0·64 |
| 1954 | Nil | Nil | 27 | 0·90 | 0·69 |
| 1953 | 3 | 3·92 | 39 | 1·26 | 0·75 |
| 1952 | 1 | 1·33 | 24 | 0·80 | 0·72 |
| 1951 | 1 | 1·34 | 21 | 0·69 | 0·81 |
| 1950 | 1 | 1·28 | 31 | 0·98 | 0·87 |
| 1949 | 1 | 1·07 | 32 | 0·97 | 0·98 |
| Average Mortality 10 years, 1949-1958 ... | | 1·32 | | 0·78 | 0·69 |

## Table 6

### Infant Mortality, 1949-1959

Comparative Statement of Infant Death Rates for Lancaster M.B., the Administrative County of Lancaster and England and Wales

| Year | Lancaster M.B. | | Lancs. Ad. County | England & Wales |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | No. of Infant Deaths | Mortality per 1,000 live births | Mortality per 1,000 live births | Mortality per 1,000 rel. live births |
| 1959 | 16 | 21 | 23·7 | 22·2 |
| 1958 | 14 | 18 | 26 | 23 |
| 1957 | 21 | 30 | 25 | 23 |
| 1956 | 18 | 21 | 27 | 24 |
| 1955 | 23 | 32 | 27 | 25 |
| 1954 | 28 | 44 | 29 | 25 |
| 1953 | 24 | 32 | 29 | 27 |
| 1952 | 32 | 43 | 30 | 28 |
| 1951 | 28 | 38 | 29 | 30 |
| 1950 | 38 | 49 | 31 | 30 |
| 1949 | 32 | 39 | 38 | 32 |
| Average Mortality 10 years, 1949-1958 ... | | 34·6 | 29·1 | 26·7 |

## Infant Mortality

In 1959 there were 16 deaths of infants under one year of age, equivalent to an infant mortality rate of 21 per 1,000 live births, which was again lower than the national rate. Comparisons with other areas may be seen in Table 6.

Many of the infant deaths assigned to the City were classified by the Registrar-General under " other defined and ill-defined diseases ". With the aid of Department records such group classifiications have been broken down so as to show the causes of death more specifically as in the table overleaf.

## Neo-natal and Peri-natal Mortality

In accordance with the wishes of the Ministry of Health, in addition to the deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age (neo-natal), this year figures have been included to show deaths under 1 week of age (early neo-natal) as well as first week deaths and still births combined (peri-natal). These will be found in the summary on page 8.

| Cause | Under 1 day | 1—7 days | 1—2 weeks | 2—3 weeks | 3—4 weeks | Total under 4 weeks | 1—3 months | 3—6 months | 6—9 months | 9—12 months | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Pneumonia ... ... ... ... ... | — | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | 1 |
| Gastro-enteritis ... ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | 1 |
| Congenital Malformations:— | | | | | | | | | | | |
| circulatory system ... ... ... | — | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | 1 |
| digestive system ... ... ... | — | 1 | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | 1 |
| spina bifida meningocele ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 1 |
| Birth Injuries ... ... ... ... | — | 1 | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | 1 |
| Post natal asphyxia and atelectasis ... | 2 | 1 | — | — | — | 3 | — | — | — | — | 3 |
| Prematurity (unqualified) ... ... | 3 | 1 | — | 1 | — | 5 | — | — | — | — | 5 |
| All other causes ... ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | — | — | 2 |
| | 5 | 4 | 2 | 1 | — | 12 | 2 | 2 | — | — | 16 |

The marked fall in infant mortality in this country during the last half century has been largely due to the decline of over 90 per cent. in the mortality of infants who had survived the first week of life, compared with only a 43 per cent. decline in the first week infant deaths. First week mortality, which is closely related to pre-natal and intra-natal conditions, has followed a similar pattern to many still births and peri-natal mortality is the term now used for still births plus first week deaths, expressed as a rate per 1,000 live and still births. In Lancaster during 1959 peri-natal deaths accounted for 80 per cent. of the total loss of infant life from the twenty-eighth week of pregnancy to the end of the first year of life.

Peri-natal mortality shows a marked regional variation and may be regarded as a sensitive measure of the quality of obstetric care and the adequacy of the maternity services.

### Morbidity—Weekly Rate of New Claims to Sickness Benefit

I am indebted to the Manager of the local office of the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance for the information overleaf, showing the weekly number of new claims to sickness benefit made by the working population in the Lancaster area. These records cover Lunesdale and part of Lancaster Rural Districts as well as Lancaster City. In 1959 the peak period occurred in February and March. The accompanying graph shows that the trend of morbidity has followed a roughly similar pattern in each of the three years 1957, 1958 and 1959 apart from the peak periods of sickness caused by influenza or other respiratory infections.

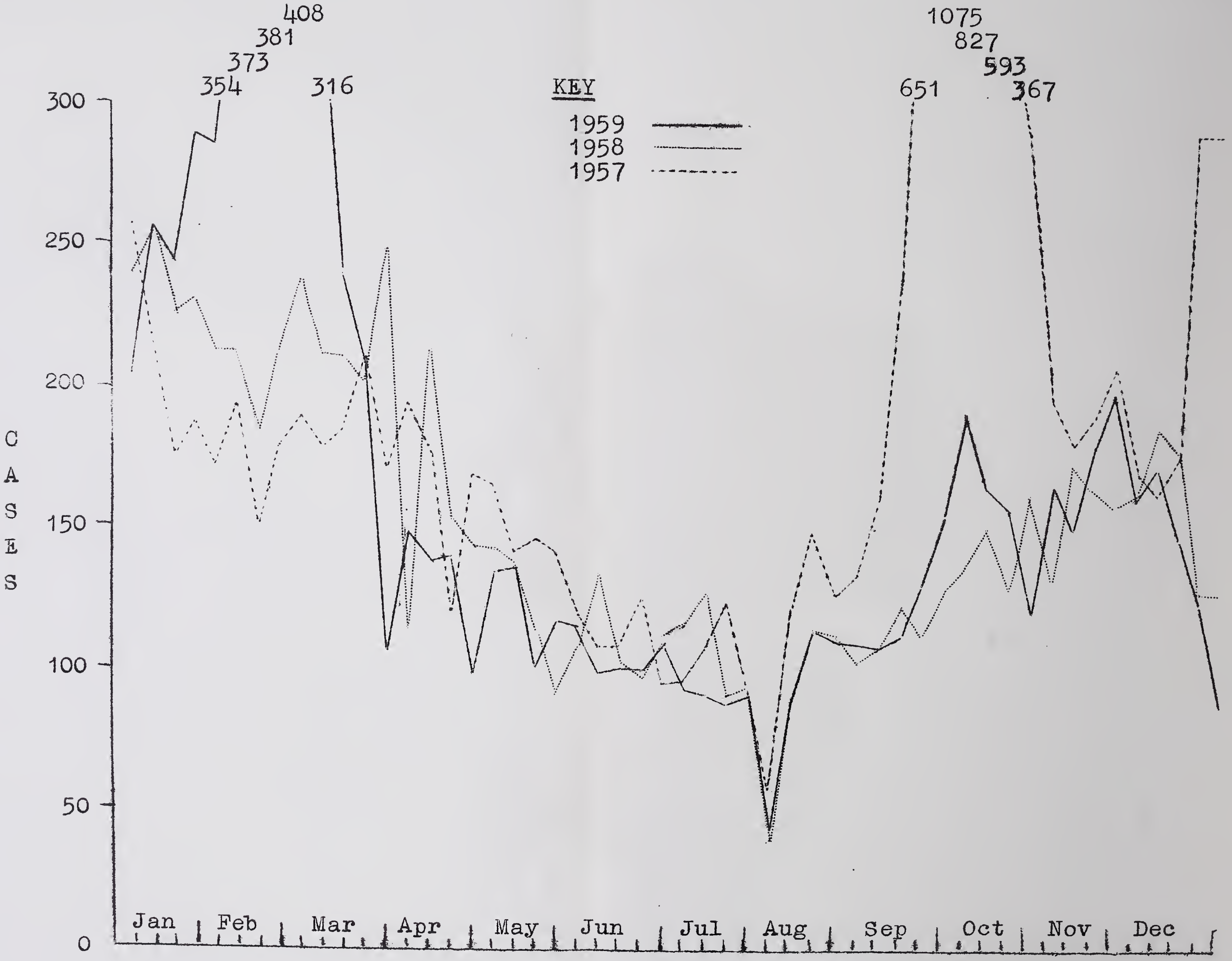
It should be noted that the figures do not relate to the total amount of sickness in the working population, but merely indicate the incidence of new cases of sickness arising each week.

NO. OF NEW CLAIMS PER WEEK — WORKING POPULATION, 1959

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Jan. | 6 | 204 | Apl. | 7 | 149 | July | 7 | 94 | Oct. | 6 | 190 |
| ,, | 13 | 256 | ,, | 14 | 138 | ,, | 14 | 92 | ,, | 13 | 164 |
| ,, | 20 | 243 | ,, | 21 | 140 | ,, | 21 | 89 | ,, | 20 | 156 |
| ,, | 27 | 289 | ,, | 28 | 99 | ,, | 28 | 92 | ,, | 27 | 121 |
| Feb. | 3 | 285 | May | 5 | 134 | Aug. | 4 | 42 | Nov. | 3 | 165 |
| ,, | 10 | 354 | ,, | 12 | 136 | ,, | 11 | 89 | ,, | 10 | 149 |
| ,, | 17 | 373 | ,, | 19 | 100 | ,, | 18 | 115 | ,, | 17 | 178 |
| ,, | 24 | 381 | ,, | 26 | 118 | ,, | 25 | 113 | ,, | 24 | 196 |
| Mar. | 3 | 408 | June | 2 | 115 | Sept. | 1 | 110 | Dec. | 1 | 160 |
| ,, | 10 | 316 | ,, | 9 | 99 | ,, | 8 | 108 | ,, | 8 | 171 |
| ,, | 17 | 238 | ,, | 16 | 102 | ,, | 15 | 114 | ,, | 15 | 147 |
| ,, | 24 | 207 | ,, | 23 | 100 | ,, | 22 | 131 | ,, | 22 | 124 |
| ,, | 31 | 106 | ,, | 30 | 110 | ,, | 29 | 154 | ,, | 29 | 87 |

## SICKNESS BENEFIT — AVERAGE NO. OF NEW CLAIMS PER WEEK

| | |
|---|---|
| 1953 ... | 140 |
| 1954 ... | 150 |
| 1955 ... | 160 |
| 1956 ... | 148 |
| 1957 ... | 218 |
| 1958 ... | 151 |
| 1959 ... | 164 |



WEEKLY INCIDENCE OF SICKNESS - WORKING POPULATION. LANCASTER AREA

## SECTION "B"

# GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

## GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

The main work of the Public Health Department concerns the control of infectious diseases and environmental health and detailed reports on these services, which are directly controlled by the City Council, will be found in Section " C " and Section " D."

The present section is related to those health services which concern mainly the personal health and welfare of the individual rather than public health of the community. Although administered by statutory authorities other than the City Council, it is felt that some brief account of the nature and scope of these services will be of interest to the Health Committee and, indeed, to the general public.

### Local Health Services under Part III of the National Health Service Act, 1946

Divisional Health Committee No. 2 of the Lancashire County Council are responsible for the day-to-day administration of the following health services, which are available to the citizens of Lancaster as well as to the inhabitants of the surrounding districts.

1. *Care of Expectant and Nursing Mothers and Young Children* including the provision of ante-natal clinics, post-natal care, dental care, child welfare centres and day nurseries, as well as special arrangements for premature babies, unmarried mothers, convalescent care, etc.
2. *Domiciliary Midwifery.*
3. *Health Visiting.*
4. *Home Nursing.*
5. *Home Help Service,* including night and evening attendance.
6. *Immunisation and Vaccination,* existing schemes afford protection to children against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus. More recently vaccination against poliomyelitis and tuberculosis has been made available to certain age groups.
7. *Ambulance Service.*
8. *Mental Health Service.* This provides supervision and after-care for two distinct classes, viz., those suffering from mental illness and those who are mentally handicapped. Mental Welfare Officers are responsible for the community care of such persons, working in close co-operation with general practitioners and consultant psychiatrists.

   A Junior Training Centre has been established at Greaves House, Lancaster, for severely subnormal children as well as a creche for other children who may be physically as well as mentally handicapped.

9. *Prevention of Illness and Care and After-Care of Persons suffering from Illness,* including health education, convalescent care, prevention and after-care of tuberculosis, provision of nursing equipment and apparatus, after-care of persons discharged from hospital, and a domiciliary laundry service.

## Welfare Services—National Assistance Act, 1948

The following welfare services are also administered by the Divisional Health Committee:—

1. *Residential Accommodation.* For persons in need of care and attention not otherwise available to them, accommodation is provided in the following hostels—Dolphinlee, Laurels and Fair Elms, Lancaster; the Empress Hostel at Morecambe; Moor Platt and The Hermitage at Caton.
2. *Care of Aged Persons in their Own Homes.* The domiciliary services provided by the County Council have been expanded, where necessary, so as to give adequate assistance, support and encouragement, in conjunction with local voluntary organisations, to enable old people to continue to live in their own homes.
3. *Handicapped Persons.* Registers are maintained for the blind, the partially sighted and the deaf for whom certain welfare services are made available through the agency of voluntary organisations. Other classes of handicapped persons, including cripples, epileptics and spastics, may after registration, be provided with occupational therapy, transport to social centres, holidays, etc.
4. *Homes for Disables and/or Old Persons.* There are 7 homes of this nature in the division, all managed by voluntary organisations or by private individuals. These are registered and inspected regularly by the divisional medical staff.

## School Health Service—Education Act, 1944

The school health service is controlled centrally by a committee of the County Council, and for the local administration of this service, the Divisional Medical Officer is responsible to the County Medical Officer of Health.

In addition to the routine medical and dental inspections of children carried out in the City schools, various clinics, some attended by visiting specialists, are provided for the correction or treatment of certain defects.

The admission of handicapped pupils to special schools is arranged through the County Medical Officer of Health. Medical supervision of children under the care of the Children's Department is also undertaken by the school medical officers. Details relating to local clinics are set out in the table overleaf:—

## Clinic and Treatment Centres — Lancaster City

| | Mon. | Tues. | Wed. | Thurs. | Fri. | Sat. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| I. Ante-Natal | | | | | | |
| (1) Ashton Road | — | — | — | — | 2—4 p.m. (fortnightly) | — |
| (2) Ryelands House | — | — | — | — | 9-30-11-30am (fortnightly) | — |
| II. Child Welfare | | | | | | |
| (1) Ashton Road | — | — | 2—4 p.m. | 2—4 p.m. | — | — |
| (2) Ryelands House | 2—4 p.m. | — | — | — | 2—4 p.m. | — |
| (3) Cong. Church, Hala Estate | 2—4 p.m. | — | — | — | — | — |
| (4) 11 Patterdale Road, Ridge Estate | — | — | 2—4 p.m. | — | — | — |
| (5) Marsh Infant School | — | — | 2—4 p.m. | — | — | — |
| III. Immunisation and Vaccination<br>(1) Ashton Road<br>(2) Ryelands House<br>(3) 11 Patterdale Road, Ridge Estate | Arranged as required — usually fortnightly | | | | | |
| IV. Minor Ailments | a.m. | a.m. | a.m. | a.m. | a.m. | |
| (1) Ashton Road | 9—10-30 | 9—10-30 | 9—10-30 | 9—10-30 | 9—10-30 | — |
| (2) Ryelands House | 9—10-30 | — | 9—10-30 | — | 9—10-30 | — |
| V. Inspection Clinic | | | | | | a.m. |
| (1) Ashton Road | — | — | — | — | — | 9-30-11-3 |
| (2) Ryelands House | — | — | — | — | — | 9-30-11-3 |
| VI. Ophthalmic Ashton Road | —<br>— | —<br>— | —<br>— | —<br>— | —<br>— | First & thi Saturdays . month |
| VII. Orthopaedic Ashton Road | —<br>— | By appointm't | —<br>— | —<br>— | —<br>— | |
| VIII. Chiropody Ashton Road | —<br>— | —<br>— | 9-30 a.m. to 12 noon | —<br>— | —<br>— | —<br>— |
| IX. Speech Therapy (2) Ryelands House | —<br>— | 9-30 a.m. to 4-30 p.m. | 9-30 a.m. to 4-30 p.m. | —<br>— | —<br>— | —<br>— |
| X. Dental Ashton Road | Monday to Friday, 9-30 a.m. — 4 p.m. daily by arrangement | | | | | |

## Laboratory Facilities

The bacteriological examinations of milk, water, ice cream and foodstuffs, as well as of specimens of faeces, blood, nose and throat swabs, etc. from individual patients is carried out at the Public Health Laboratory at Preston, and I am indebted to Dr. Robertson, its Director, for much helpful advice in connection with epidemiological investigations.

The chemical analysis of water, as well as of milk and foodstuffs taken under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, is performed by the County Analyst, Dr. Walker, whose willing co-operation is also appreciated.

## Nursing Homes

The following nursing homes in Lancaster and district are registered with the County Council, under the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Westhaven Nursing Home, 2/3, Laurel Bank, Lancaster.
Beds: 10 medical.

Caton Green Nursing Home, Caton Green, nr. Lancaster.
Beds: 27 medical, 5 surgical.

## Co-ordination of Health Services

The structure of the National Health Service, with responsibilities shared by separate authorities, renders it essential that there should be effective arrangements for securing integration. Locally this is ensured by cross representation on committees and by liaison between officers of the different services. Co-ordination of the school health service, the other health services of the County Council and the health services administered by the City Council, is facilitated by reason of the fact that your Medical Officer of Health acts also as Divisional Medical Officer and School Medical Officer. Co-operation with local general practitioners is secured by frequent exchange of information in relation to infectious diseases, housing, domiciliary nursing services, welfare of aged and handicapped persons, etc. There is close liaison also with all local hospitals, and I am grateful to the administrative, medical, and nursing staffs for much useful information supplied in connection with the after-care of discharged patients. Every effort is made also to co-operate with the numerous voluntary organisations, which play such a useful part in filling the gaps still apparent in the National Health Service.

## Section "C"

# PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

## PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

In 1959 the number of cases of infectious diseases notified by general practitioners totalled 1,034, the highest number since 1953. This was entirely due to a high incidence of measles.

Detailed figures relating to the various diseases will be found on page 29, but the following summary shows the comparative incidence of the principal infectious diseases over the past seven years.

| | Average of 5 years 1953-1957 | 1958 | 1959 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Scarlet Fever | 49 | 46 | 81 |
| Diphtheria | — | — | — |
| Whooping Cough | 96 | 10 | 12 |
| Measles | 378 | 37 | 862 |
| Pneumonia | 27 | 15 | 25 |
| Tuberculosis | 47 | 19 | 17 |
| Poliomyelitis | 3 | — | 1 |
| Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever | 1 | — | — |
| Dysentery | 62 | 89 | 25 |
| Food Poisoning | 43 | 6 | — |
| Other Diseases | 11 | 2 | 11 |
| TOTAL | 717 | 224 | 1,034 |

### Measles

This common disease of childhood continues to manifest periodic exacerbations. Following an exceptionally low incidence of 37 cases in 1958, notifications rose to 862 in 1959, the highest number recorded in the last 25 years.

### Whooping Cough

Twelve cases of whooping cough were notified in 1959 compared with 10 in the previous year and an average of 96 cases for the years 1953-1957. It is hoped eventually, with increased acceptance of whooping cough vaccine, this disease will become modified or controlled.

## Diphtheria

The last case of diphtheria in Lancaster occurred in 1948 but small outbreaks of this disease continue to occur in some parts of the country. Diphtheria is not likely to be eliminated completely until at least 75 per cent. of babies are immunised before their first birthdays. We are still some way off that objective locally.

Immunisation is a free service available either from the family doctor, through school clinics, or at child welfare centres.

Under the immunisation scheme facilities are provided for protection against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus, whereby innoculations may be given against diphtheria or whooping cough separately, or together, or in further combination with protection against tetanus. The following table shows the number of Lancaster children immunised during 1956-1959 against each of the three diseases.

Lancaster City—Immunisation Carried Out

1956, 1957, 1958 and 1959

| | Number of individuals who completed a full course of primary immunisation | | | | | | | | | Number of individuals who were given a re-inforcement injection | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Diphtheria | | | Whooping Cough | | | Tetanus | | | Diphtheria | Wh'p'g Cough | Tetanus |
| Age Groups | 0—4 | 5—14 | Total | 0—4 | 5—14 | Total | 0—4 | 5—14 | Total | All ages | All ages | All ages |
| 1956 | 430 | 32 | 462 | 408 | 3 | 411 | 101 | — | 101 | 968 | 9 | 6 |
| 1957 | 445 | 36 | 481 | 423 | 4 | 427 | 330 | 4 | 334 | 752 | 9 | 5 |
| 1958 | 642 | 47 | 689 | 633 | 14 | 647 | 591 | 12 | 603 | 1,059 | 13 | 10 |
| 1959 | 682 | 22 | 704 | 679 | 13 | 692 | 662 | 13 | 675 | 821 | 20 | 18 |

### Poliomyelitis

One case of poliomyelitis was notified in 1959 compared with none in the previous year.

Vaccination against poliomyelitis commenced in the latter half of 1956 and the following table shows the number of Lancaster children and adults up to the age of 40 who have been vaccinated during the last 2 years.

*Number of Persons who have completed Primary Vaccination* (2 *doses*)

| | 0-15 *yrs.* | 15-40 *yrs.* | *Total* |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1958 ... | 3,194 | 386 | 3,580 |
| 1959 ... | 2,172 | 3,075 | 5,247 |

*Number of Persons who have completed Primary and Reinforcement Vaccination* (3 *doses*)

| | 0-15 *yrs.* | 15-40 *yrs.* | *Total* |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1958 ... | — | — | — |
| 1959 ... | 4,242 | 706 | 4,948 |

### Dysentery

This particular bowel infection is difficult to differentiate clinically from other forms of diarrhoea, and it is doubtful whether the cases notified to the Public Health Department do, in fact, represent its true incidence, especially as many cases occur in which symptoms are slight or short lived In adults the disease is often more of a nuisance than a danger.

During the year 25 cases were notified compared with 89 cases in 1958 and 78 and 1957. Four-fifths of the total cases occurred in mental hospitals and in the majority Sh. Sonnei was identified as the causal agent.

### Food Poisoning

For the first time since 1953 no cases of food poisoning were notified during the year.

## CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) NOTIFIED DURING 1959

| DISEASE | AGE PERIOD—YEARS | | | | | | | | | | | | | Cases Admitted to Hospital | Deaths |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 0— | 1— | 2— | 3— | 4— | 5— | 10— | 15— | 25— | 45— | 65 & over | Age unkown | Total | | |
| Smallpox ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Scarlet Fever ... ... ... | — | — | 4 | 11 | 11 | 49 | 6 | — | — | — | — | — | 81 | 4 | — |
| Dipththeria ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Enteric or Typhoid Fever ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Paratyphoid Fever ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Measles (excluding Rubella) | 21 | 89 | 104 | 110 | 115 | 408 | 13 | 1 | 1 | — | — | — | 862 | — | — |
| Whooping Cough ... ... | — | — | 3 | — | 2 | 4 | — | 3 | — | — | — | — | 12 | — | — |
| Acute Pneumonia (Primary and Influenzal) ... ... | 2 | 1 | — | — | — | 2 | 5 | — | 3 | 6 | 6 | — | 25 | 2 | — |
| Puerperal Pyrexia ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Meningococcal Infection ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | 1 | 1 | — |
| Acute Poliomyelitis—Paralytic | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | — |
| ,, ,, Non-Paralytic | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Acute Encephalitis-Infective ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| ,, ,, Post Infective | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Dysentery ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | 1 | 6 | 1 | 1 | — | 7 | 9 | — | 25 | — | — |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Erysipelas ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 2 | 1 | 5 | — | 9 | — | — |
| Malaria (contracted in England and Wales) ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Malaria (contracted abroad) ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | 1 | — | — |
| Food Poisoning... ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Total ... ... ... | 23 | 90 | 111 | 121 | 130 | 470 | 25 | 5 | 7 | 14 | 21 | — | 1,017 | 8 | — |

## Tuberculosis

The number of new cases of respiratory tuberculosis notified in 1959 was 17 the same number as in the previous year. Over the preceding 10 years notified cases averaged 42·3 per annum and in 1915, when records were first started in the City, the annual incidence was about 120.

Two cases of non-respiratory tuberculosis were notified in 1958 but none in 1959 — a new record.

For all forms of tuberculosis, therefore, new cases notified totalled 17, against 19 in the previous year and an average annual incidence of 49·3 for the period 1949-1958.

Comparative figures are given below.

| Year | New Cases Notified | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Respiratory | Non-respiratory | Total |
| 1959 | 17 | — | 17 |
| 1958 | 17 | 2 | 19 |
| 1957 | 34 | 6 | 40 |
| 1956 | 35 | 2 | 37 |
| 1955 | 43 | 9 | 52 |
| 1954 | 33 | 8 | 41 |
| 1953 | 58 | 6 | 64 |
| 1952 | 48 | 6 | 54 |
| 1951 | 57 | 12 | 69 |
| 1950 | 46 | 9 | 55 |
| 1949 | 52 | 10 | 62 |
| Total ... | 423 | 70 | 493 |
| Av'ge 10 yrs. 1949-1958 | 42·3 | 7·0 | 49·3 |

The following table gives a summary of the known cases of tuberculosis in the City at 31st December, 1959.

| | *Males* | *Females* | *Total* |
|---|---|---|---|
| Respiratory ... ... | 175 | 88 | 263 |
| Non-respiratory ... | 13 | 20 | 33 |
| | 188 | 108 | 296 |

**Mortality from Tuberculosis**

The table below shows the number of deaths registered together with the corresponding death rates during 1959 and the preceding decinnial period.

| Year | Respiratory Tuberculosis | | Non-respiratory Tuberculosis | | All forms | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Deaths | Rate per 1,000 pop'n | Deaths | Rate per 1,000 pop'n | Deaths | Rate per 1,000 pop'n |
| 1959 | 9 | 0·18 | — | — | 9 | 0·18 |
| 1958 | 2 | 0·04 | — | — | 2 | 0·04 |
| 1957 | 10 | 0·16 | 2 | 0·04 | 12 | 0·24 |
| 1956 | 6 | 0·12 | — | — | 6 | 0·12 |
| 1955 | 20 | 0·40 | 1 | 0·02 | 21 | 0·42 |
| 1954 | 8 | 0·16 | 2 | 0·04 | 10 | 0·20 |
| 1953 | 7 | 0·14 | 2 | 0·04 | 9 | 0·18 |
| 1952 | 7 | 0·14 | 1 | 0·02 | 8 | 0·16 |
| 1951 | 19 | 0·37 | 1 | 0·02 | 20 | 0·39 |
| 1950 | 23 | 0·44 | 3 | 0·06 | 26 | 0·50 |
| 1949 | 14 | 0·27 | 1 | 0·02 | 15 | 0·29 |
| Average of 10 years 1949-58 | 11·6 | 0·22 | 1·3 | 0·03 | 12·9 | 0·25 |

In 1959 there were 9 deaths from respiratory tuberculosis and none from other forms of the disease, compared with 2 and none respectively in the previous year.

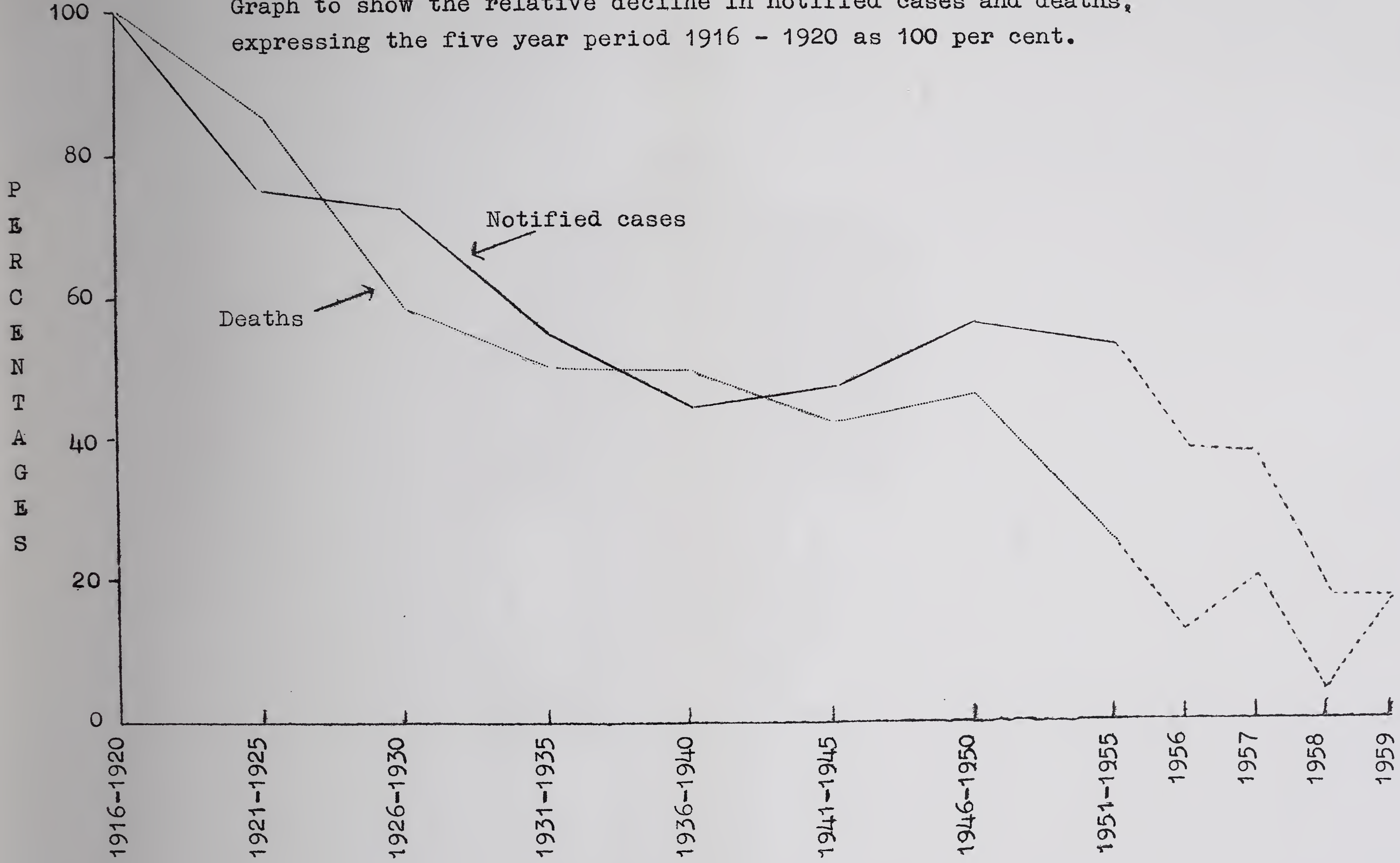
The graph overleaf shows, for respiratory tuberculosis, the decline in the number of cases notified and in the number of deaths relative to the five year period 1916-1920.

Some experts have forecast that tuberculosis may be eradicated within the next two or three decades. Certainly the disease can, with the aid of modern drugs and methods of treatment, be regarded much more as a curable condition but, possibly largely because of this, the fall in the notification rate or incidence continues to lag behind the fall in the death rate. Despite the fact that increasing attention is now being given to the discovery of early cases by mass miniature radiography, tuberculin testing, etc., there are many people in the community, especially elderly people, whose disease has not been detected and who continue to spread the infection. In 1958 just over 25 per cent. of the total deaths from tuberculosis in the Administrative County escaped statutory notification as tuberculosis during life. Tuberculosis must therefore continue to be regarded as an important communicable disease, and the old established measures directed to its prevention and control must still be pursued as vigorously as newer measures such as vaccination and mass radiography.

During the year, the Chest Physician carried out B.C.G. vaccination on 132 infants and children in Lancaster, who were at risk from close contact with infectious cases. In addition, school medical officers vaccinated 621 school leavers in Lancaster schools, after Mantoux tests had been carried out.

# RESPIRATORY TUBERCULOSIS

Graph to show the relative decline in notified cases and deaths, expressing the five year period 1916 - 1920 as 100 per cent.



SECTION "D"

# SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE CITY

## *Annual Report of the*
## *CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR*

F. SHAW, D.P.A., F.R.S.H.

## City of Lancaster—Environmental Health Services

## Under the Direction of the Chief Public Health Inspector

### HOUSING

**Inspection of Houses**
Preparation of reports on general housing conditions in the city.

**Repair of Houses**
Preparation of specifications and schedules of costs.
Supervision of works.
Execution of works in default of owners.

**Clearance, etc. of Unfit Houses**
Indication of areas needing re-planning and re-development.
Clearance of the buildings from such areas.
Demolition of single houses not included in areas.
Closure of dwelling which it is not practicable to demolish.

**Valuation of Houses**
Valuation of houses to ascertain whether they are capable of repair at reasonable cost, etc.
Estimation of future life of houses.

**Overcrowding**
Ascertainment and abatement of overcrowding.

**Common Lodging Houses**
Inspection and registration.

**Houses Let in Lodgings**
Inspection and supervision.

**Rehousing**
Investigation into special housing needs which call for priority.
Removals in connection with rehousing.
Fumigation of household effects with HCN when necessary.

### RATS AND MICE

Destruction and infestation prevention.

### INSECT, ETC., PESTS

Destruction and control.

### UPHOLSTERY, ETC., FILLINGS

Supervision of premises where upholstery fillings are made or stored or used.
Sampling such fillings for examination as to cleanliness.

### FOOD AND DRUGS

**Examination and Sampling**

**Examination of:**
Meat at the time of slaughter.
Meat in butchers' shops, etc.
Food of all kinds in shops, stores, warehouses, etc.
Supervision of the disposal of food condemned as unfit.

**Sampling of:**
Food and drugs for analysis.
Foods for bacteriological exam.

**Hygiene of Food Premises**
Inspection of all premises used for the preparation, storage, handling and sale fo food.
Advice on layout, design and construction of food premises.
Advice on equipment.

### MILK AND DAIRIES

Supervision of distribution of milk.
Inspection of dairies.

**Sampling of Milk for:**
Adulteration. Keeping quality.
Tubercle bacilli. Brucella Abortus.

**Pre-licensing Inspection of:**
Pasteurising plants.
Sterilising plants.
Bottling establishments.
Routine inspection of plants and premises.

### INSPECTION OF OTHER PREMISES, e.g.:

Factories.
Building and civil engineering sites.
Workplaces. Shops. Offices.
Places of entertainment.
Offensive Trade premises.
Schools.

### NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT

Burial of the Dead.
Arrangement for care of people living alone under insanitary conditions.

### ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Inspection of boiler, etc., plants.
Observation of smoke from chimneys.
Investigations generally into atmospheric pollution.

### GENERAL SANITATION

Investigation into complaints.
Abatement of nuisances.
Water supplies (purity and sufficiency of).
Purity of swimming bath water.
Inspection of camping sites.
Drainage.
Removals of accumulations of waste and offensive matter.

**Rivers and Watercourses**
Investigation into pollution.

**Sewage Disposal**
Sewage disposal from isolated buildings not connected to the town's sewerage system.

### INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Investigations into causes of spread.
Disinfection of premises and articles.

### FOOD-BORNE INFECTIONS

Investigations into causes.
Collection of specimens for exam.

### PET ANIMALS

Inspection of pet animal shops.

### PORT HEALTH

Inspection of crew's accommodation.
Ship drinking water supplies.
Rat and vermin destruction.
Enquiries re infectious diseases and sickness amongst crews.
Supervision of shellfish layings and collection grounds.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF
THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Public Health Department,
Thurnham Street,
Lancaster.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

In introducing my Report for the year 1959, I would like, as usual, to stress one or two of the more important items.

Housing is largely a public health function, and as such, occupies a fair amount of the time of your Health Department. The general standard of housing in the City is higher now than it has been for a long time. There is very little statutory overcrowding (only four recorded cases), and the current five-year slum clearance programme is nearing completion. The end of the Council's relatively large post 1945 building programme is in sight. Generally, there is no delay in rehousing the occupants of unfit houses. This usually takes place within a few weeks of the Compulsory Purchase or Clearance Order, etc. becoming operative.

In spite of this relatively re-assuring picture, there remains a shortage of suitable accommodation for people of pensionable age, and little or no provision has, so far, been made for single professional people, such as teachers, nurses and health visitors, etc. The number of people in the City of pensionable age has increased during the last few years and is now probably in the region of 12 per cent. of the privately housed population. The 1961 census will, however, give a much more accurate picture.

On the present basis of calculation, although there is some risk of the Council over-building, a further 50 one-bedroomed dwellings should be built for old people, and no difficulty should be experienced in letting an additional fifty one-bedroomed dwellings to single people.

Many of the older houses in the City are still in need of extensive repair and reconditioning, but because of the unfilled vacancy for a Public Health Inspector, little progress was made in this section of the work during 1959. I am glad to be able to report that more people are taking advantage of the very generous financial help given towards improving houses, but many more landlords and owner-occupiers could still do so because there is quite a high proportion of the older houses in the City which lack hot water and a bath. Fuller information on housing matters in general is given on pages 42 to 48.

During 1959, the measures taken to deal with air pollution had to be restricted to supervising industrial plant and the measuring of the comparable degree of pollution in the City. Because of the staff shortage already referred to, it was not possible to make any significant progress towards making Lancaster's first Smoke Control Order. Smoke Control Orders are the most effective measures that can be taken towards cleaner air.

Conditions in which food is handled both in the Market Hall and the open-air market still cause your Health Officers concern. It is sincerely hoped that work on the improvement of the Market Hall will not be delayed any further, and that by the end of next year suitable progress will have been made.

During the year the Department continued the routine sampling of food for bacteriological testing, and details of these are given on pages 53—55.

It gives me pleasure, Ladies and Gentlemen, once again, to submit this Report to you, and I hope you will find it interesting.

I sincerely acknowledge the loyal support and co-operation of the whole Department.

I am,

Yours truly,

F. SHAW,
*Chief Public Health Inspector*

## WORK OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS

The following tables show the total number of premises visited during the year, the defects or nuisances found and abated, the number of notices served, and the types of inspections and visits made, excluding housing.

Statistical and other information concerning housing conditions is given on pages 42 to 48.

### Public Health Inspections during 1959

No. of premises visited, 10,579. Defects or nuisances—No. discovered, 521; No. abated, 704. No. of notices served—Informal, 498; Statutory, 44; Legal proceedings, Nil.

### Types of Inspections and Visits other than Housing

| | |
|---|---|
| Atmospheric pollution | 554 |
| Rodent infestation | 11 |
| Infectious disease enquiries | 68 |
| Food inspection | 150 |
| Miscellaneous Public Health inspections | 476 |
| Miscellaneous visits | 1,253 |
| Offensive trade premises | 3 |
| Butchers' shops and stores | 55 |
| Bakehouses | 95 |
| Ice cream premises | 66 |
| Fish fryers' premises | 48 |
| Food preparing premises | 89 |
| Other food premises, general | 584 |
| Dairies | 18 |
| Public Houses | 25 |
| Markets | 22 |
| Restaurants | 72 |
| Shops (Shops Act) | 12 |
| Theatres, cinemas, etc. | 17 |
| Slaughterhouses | 725 |
| Snack bars, soda fountains, etc. | 69 |
| Combustion plants | 48 |
| Food vans and Milk vehicles | 127 |
| School Meals Service | 34 |
| Canteens | 18 |
| Verminous Premises | 1 |

### Complaints Received

| *Nature of Complaint* | *Number* |
|---|---|
| Unsatisfactory housing conditions | 14 |
| Defective fireplaces | 2 |
| Defective rainwater pipes | 4 |
| Defective windows | 2 |
| Defective chimneys | 10 |
| Defective doors | 4 |

|  |  |
|---|---|
| Defective plasterwork | 2 |
| Defective eavesgutters | 15 |
| Defective roofs | 9 |
| Defective sewers | 8 |
| Defective ceilings | 2 |
| Defective water supply | 2 |
| Defective waterclosets | 28 |
| Burst water pipes | 3 |
| Dampness | 16 |
| Choked drains | 58 |
| Flooding | 21 |
| Defective dustbins | 11 |
| Accumulation of refuse | 16 |
| Dirty premises | 2 |
| Blocked street gullies | 6 |
| Rats | 78 |
| Mice | 83 |
| Insect pests | 72 |
| Foul and obnoxious odours | 34 |
| Smoke nuisances | 14 |
| Overcrowding | 30 |
| Subsidence | 1 |
| Miscellaneous | 37 |

## Nuisances Abated Following Action by the Public Health Inspectors

### Drainage, Sanitary Accommodation, etc.

|  |  |
|---|---|
| Drains cleared from obstruction | 35 |
| Public sewers cleared from obstruction | 17 |
| Drains re-laid or repaired | 3 |
| Sewers re-laid or repaired | 2 |
| Soil pipes, waste pipes, etc., repaired or renewed | 5 |

### Water Closets

|  |  |
|---|---|
| Additional w.c.s provided | 2 |
| W.C. compartments re-built or repaired | 5 |
| W.C. basins renewed | 14 |
| W.C. cisterns renewed or repaired | 7 |

### Various

|  |  |
|---|---|
| Offensive accumulations removed | 2 |
| Additional dustbins provided | 7 |
| Dustbins renewed | 21 |
| Miscellaneous | 17 |

### Shops (Shops Act, 1950, Section 38)

There are in the City about 900 shop premises of all descriptions. Many of them are one-man businesses. Twelve of those where assistants are employed were inspected during the course of the year.

### Camping Sites (other than Military)

Although no camping sites were licensed during the year the inspectors made 29 visits to sites which were either used for periods less than 42 consecutive days or were in use illegally. Most were in connection with unauthorised use of corporation land.

### Steps Towards Cleaner Air and Administration of Clean Air Act, 1956

The most effective measure that can be taken towards cleaner air for the City is, undoubtedly, the establishment of smoke control areas. Unfortunately, because of the unfilled vacancy for a Public Health Inspector, it was not possible during 1959 to make any significant progress towards the making of Lancaster's first Smoke Control Order.

The measures taken during the year were:—

(a) The observation of factory chimneys;

(b) inspection of combustion plants for the purpose of ascertaining the causes of smoke nuisances and to give advice; and subsequent visits;

(c) the measurement of the degree of atmospheric pollution in the City.

#### (a) **Observations**

During the year your Public Health Inspectors made 163 observations of factory, etc., chimneys. The total time spent on these observations was 76 hours 9½ minutes. Of this time the periods during which the various shades of smoke were emitted are shown in the following tables.

*Length of time, in minutes, during observations when smoke was emitted from chimneys*

| RINGELMAN SHADE NUMBERS | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | 0—1 | 1+—2<br>Light | 2+—3+<br>Dark | 4—4+<br>Black | Total |
| 1,619 | 2,038¾ | 734¾ | 155¾ | 12¼ | 4,569½ |

The number of smoke nuisances recorded and action taken were as follows: —

| Nuisances Recorded | Verbal Warnings given | Written Notices sent |
|---|---|---|
| 8 | 4 | 4 |

(b) **Inspections and Visits**

Forty-eight routine inspections of combustion plants were made during the year.

(c) **Measurement of Air Pollution**

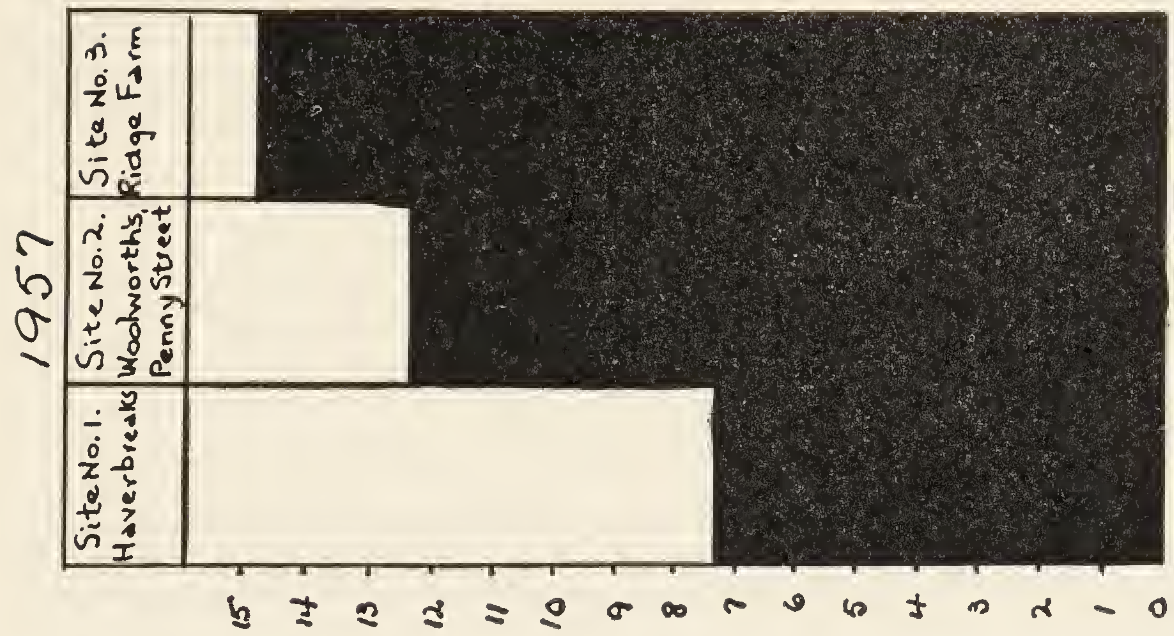
During 1959 the comparative amount of ash, grit and other solid particles deposited in the City from smoke emitted from chimneys was measured as in previous years.

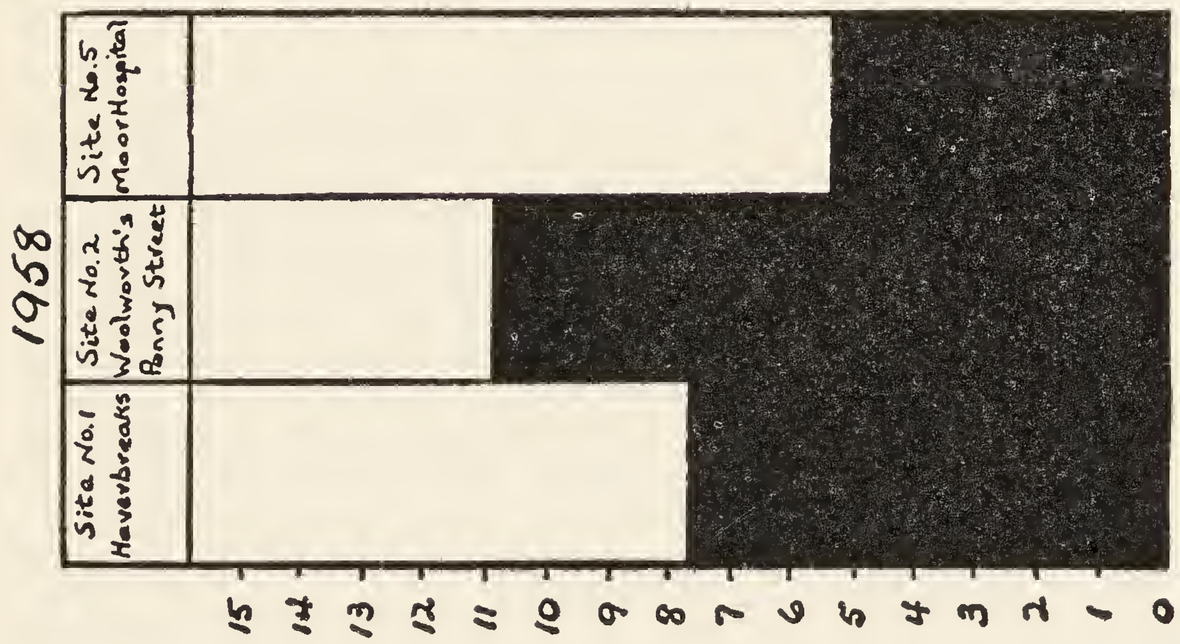
The estimated matter deposited during 1959 calculated in tons per square mile per month from the standard deposit gauges, and the amount of sulphur dioxide in parts per 100 million parts of air, as calculated from the volumetric instruments attached to the smoke filter are given in Table 1 below. Table II gives the comparative average monthly deposit of soot during 1957-1959.

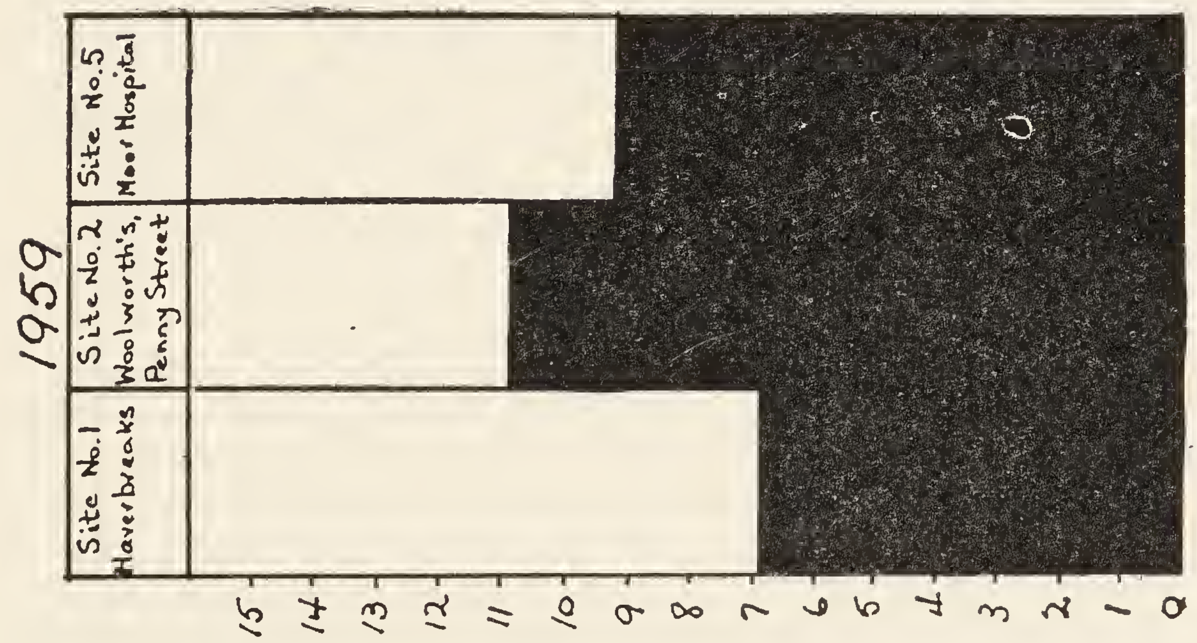
TABLE I.

| Month | TOTAL DEPOSITED MATTER (SOOT) Tons per square mile | | | SULPHUR DIOXIDE parts per 100 mill. parts of air Monthly Averages | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Site No. 1 Haverbreaks | Site No. 2 Woolworths Penny Street | Site No. 5 Moor Hospital | Public Health Offices | Museum |
| January ... ... | 6·62 | 11·51 | 7·75 | 6·3 | — |
| February ... ... | 4·22 | 10·88 | 3·23 | 5·1 | — |
| March ... ... | 7·54 | 9·42 | 26·29 | 2·7 | — |
| April ... ... | 6·48 | 10·51 | 5·58 | 2·6 | — |
| May ... ... ... | 5·68 | 10·87 | 7·31 | 2·2 | — |
| June ... ... ... | 7·09 | 9·72 | 10·67 | 1·2 | 1·6* |
| July ... ... ... | 6·66 | 9·15 | 6·69 | 0·9 | 2·2 |
| August ... ... | 3·01 | 7·83 | 5·03 | 0·9 | 2·0 |
| September ... | 3·42 | 6·99 | 9·14 | 1·5 | 4·0 |
| October ... ... | 12·54 | 16·05 | 10·64 | 1·6 | 4·8 |
| November ... | 7·93 | 11·62 | 7·51 | 3·3 | 6·6 |
| December ... | 11·55 | 16·44 | 10·57 | 3·2 | 6·2 |

* A portable air pollution measurement apparatus was installed in the Museum and recordings from this instrument began on 1st June, 1959.


1957
Site No. 1. Haverbreaks
Site No. 2. Woolworth's, Penny Street
Site No. 3. Ridge Farm
15
14
13
12
11
10
9
8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1
0


1958
Site No. 1 Haverbreaks
Site No. 2 Woolworth's Penny Street
Site No. 5 Moor Hospital
15
14
13
12
11
10
9
8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1
0


1959
Site No. 1 Haverbreaks
Site No. 2 Woolworth's, Penny Street
Site No. 5 Moor Hospital
15
14
13
12
11
10
9
8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1
0

**Offensive Trades**

Number of premises—4.

Types of offensive trades:—

| | |
|---|---|
| Fellmongers | 1 |
| Gut Scrapers | 2 |
| Rag and Bone Dealer | 1 |

All the offensive trades in the City were, generally speaking, carried on during the year without serious nuisance in spite of difficulties due to obsolete buildings.

**Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951**

**Rack Flock Acts, 1911 and 1928**

| | |
|---|---|
| No. of premises in the district in which filling materials are manufactured, used or sold | 4 |
| No. of inspections | — |
| No. of samples taken | — |

## HOUSING CONDITIONS

### General Observations

During the year 318 new buildings (including 84 built by private builders, to order or for sale) were completed, and by the end of 1959 the Main Street/Ramparts redevelopment scheme was well advanced. The City Council's relatively large post-war house building programme is drawing to a close. There is little statutory overcrowding in the City, and the current five-year slum clearance programme is approaching completion.

Looking back over the past fifteen years, it would seem now that perhaps a greater proportion of the post 1945 dwellings built by the Council might have been of the one-bedroom type. There is still an unsatisfied demand from old people for this type of accommodation, but a further building programme large enough to completely satisfy this demand could result in a surplus of Council houses in general. The 1948 Lancaster Housing Survey showed that in 10·7% of married couples, the man was aged 65 or more. At the present time this figure is probably about 12%. On the other hand, up to the present time, 10·2% of Lancaster's post-war Council dwellings have been the one-bedroom type, and when the Main Street/Ramparts/ Captains Row project is completed, this will rise to 10·7%of all Council dwellings.

The main cause of the present shortage of small dwellings lies, in the main, with the pre 1939 national policy of concentration on a standard three-bedroom house. This policy was considered, at the time, to be sound because the difference between the cost of building a three-bedroom house and a smaller one was not great, and the larger house would accommodate a small family as well as the average sized family. It is now generally realised that this was not the best policy. Different types of houses are needed to meet varying needs, and standardisation to this degree does not help towards that end. For example, not everyone wears the same size of shoe because it is cheaper to produce one size. A house which is too large can be a real burden if old people happen to be living in it.

There was insufficient research into housing needs in the inter-war period. From the estimate already given of the proportion of people aged 65 or over in the population at the present time and the number of one-bedroom dwellings already built, or in course of construction, it would seem that there is still a need for an additional 50 one-bedroom dwellings. The Housing Manager has informed me that he has about 70 old people on his list waiting for this type of accommodation. Although, therefore, we are reaching the stage where the Council may find itself with surplus houses in general, the need of the old people would appear to make it worthwhile taking the risk of slightly over-building. To obtain a clear picture of the housing situation in the City as a whole, it is necessary to consider not only the dwellings being constructed by the Council, but those being built by private builders both inside and immediately outside the City. On an average, private builders are building between 70/80 houses per year in the City. There is also a fair amount of this type of building going on immediately outside Lancaster and this will have some effect on the general housing situation in the City.

So far, in Lancaster, no provision has been made for housing single people who desire their own establishment, e.g. teachers, nurses, health visitors, etc. Should, therefore, the City Council decide, in spite of the probability of over-building, to provide a further 100 one-bedroomed dwellings, no difficulty should be encountered in letting *this type of accommodation.*

With some of the larger types of dwellings, however, there is a possibility that, in the near future, the City Council will be meeting some competition in finding tenants.

The increase in the price of land zoned for building is causing concern throughout the country. There has been a clamour for releasing more land for house building in order to bring prices down. This raises many problems, but the general scarcity of land for all purposes remains a stark fact. The price of any commodity which is in short supply tends to rise and this usually makes people economise in the use of it and to value it more. A recent example of this is coal. Before 1939, coal was so cheap that it was very wastefully used and much of it went up the chimney in the form of smoke. The wartime and immediate post-war scarcity, coupled with substantial increases in price, compelled industrialists to treat it, as in fact it is, as a valuable commodity and to use it more economically. This often meant departure from long established practice and the introduction of new methods and plant. Also to-day, many of the valuable products which formerly were wasted are extracted and converted into valuable products. If, therefore, a rise in the price of land results in more of it being kept for food production, then the increase in prise is not necessarily a bad thing. In my opinion, it is very necessary for local authorities to assess, as accurately as possible, the real housing needs of their districts and to allocate land for building purposes only on the basis of that assessment, and not on the basis of builders' applications.

The zoning of land for building in excess of proved need can lead to sterilisation of agricultural land. World economic and political trends point to a future situation where less food may be available to us from other countries and to higher food prices at home.

Increased land prices might compel developers to think in terms of building at higher densities and to building blocks of flats for sale, both in the City and immediately outside. The latter is becoming fairly common in the South of England.

## Common Lodging Houses

There are no registered common lodging houses in the City.

## Houses Let in Lodgings

At the end of 1959 there were about 1,000 more dwellings in the City than there were at the end of 1948, but in spite of this there were still families living in rooms. Although there is a shortage of separate dwellings at the present time this is not the only reason for the multi-occupation of houses. Furnished rooms provide accommodation at short notice for people coming into Lancaster to work either for short or long periods. Rooms whether furnished or unfurnished also some times provide accommodation for newly married couples until they have had an opportunity to find a suitable house or flat. Rooms provide convenient accommodation for some old people and for single people wanting a home of their own. Some of these houses let off in rooms [redacted] provide shelter for people who are evicted from houses because of rent arrears or other reasons. Surprising as it might seem, there are also people who prefer to live in rooms rather than have the responsibility of a house.

Houses which are let off in rooms, therefore, provide a useful service and are likely to remain as part of the overall housing pattern. Conditions in many of these houses, unfortunately, are very sub-standard.

### Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.

There are no tents, vans, or other similar erections used at present for human habitation in the City.

### Underground Sleeping Rooms

The new Regulations for the control of underground rooms were not very helpful for enforcing reasonable standards of lighting and ventilation. In consequence, representations were made by the Association of Municipal Corporations to the Minister for a review of the situation. There are not many houses in this City where basements are used for sleeping, but effective legal measures are necessary to deal with those that are in existence.

## HOUSING—STATISTICAL INFORMATION

### Houses without Internal Piped Supply of Water, etc.

| | |
|---|---|
| (a) Number of houses which have not an adequate internal water supply ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 2 |
| (b) Number of houses which have no separate water closet or other adequate sanitary accommodation ... ... ... | 45 |

### Inspection of Dwelling Houses

| | |
|---|---|
| 1. Total number of dwellings inspected ... ... ... | 168 |
| 2. Total number of inspections made ... ... ... | 690 |
| 3. Number of houses inspected found to be unfit but capable of repair at reasonable cost ... ... ... ... | 64 |
| 4. Number of houses inspected and found not to be unfit but requiring repairs enforceable under the Public Health Act | 48 |

|  |  |  |
|---|---|---|
| 5. | Number of houses inspected which were found to be unfit but were not capable of being made fit at reasonable cost | 9 |
| 6. | Number of houses inspected which called for no further action | 47 |
| 7. | Total number of unfit houses existing at end of 1959 | 268 |

**Notices Served**

|  |  |  |
|---|---|---|
| 8. | Formal notices under the Housing Acts requiring repairs to render houses fit for human habitation | 5 |
| 9. | Formal notices requiring repairs, etc., under the Public Health Act | 9 |
| 10. | Informal notices requiring repairs to houses | 40 |
| 11. | Intimations to owners concerning lack of information in rent books | — |

### Result of Action

**Repair of Houses**

|  |  | *After Informal Notice* | *After Formal Notice* |
|---|---|---|---|
| 12. | Houses made fit following the service of Housing Act notices | 20 | 22 |
| 13. | Houses in which defects were remedied after the service of notices under the Public Health Act | — | 6 |

**Demolition and Closure of Dwellings**

|  |  |  |
|---|---|---|
| 14. | Unfit houses demolished during the year | 190 |
|  | Number of families rehoused from houses in confirmed Slum Clearance Schemes | 89 |
|  | Number of persons rehoused from houses in confirmed Slum Clearance Schemes | 244 |
| 15. | Houses closed during the year | 3 |
|  | Number of persons rehoused from these houses | 9 |
| 16. | Dwellings, which were parts of buildings, closed | 3 |
|  | Number of persons rehoused from these dwellings | 10 |

### Repairs to Dwellings

| | |
|---|---|
| Roofs repaired or stripped and renewed ... ... ... | 30 |
| External walls re-built and re-pointed ... ... ... ... | 26 |
| Rainwater pipes repaired or renewed ... ... ... ... | 31 |
| Eavesgutters repaired or renewed ... ... ... ... | 51 |
| Chimney stacks re-built ... ... ... ... ... ... | 2 |
| Yards, passages, pavements repaired or renewed ... ... | 11 |
| Ceilings re-plastered or repaired ... ... ... ... | 18 |
| Internal walls re-plastered or repaired ... ... ... ... | 105 |
| Windows repaired or renewed ... ... ... ... ... | 154 |
| Doors repaired or renewed ... ... ... ... ... | 22 |
| Floors repaired or renewed ... ... ... ... ... | 28 |
| Fireplaces repaired or renewed ... ... ... ... ... | 11 |
| Sinks repaired or renewed ... ... ... ... ... | 6 |
| Repairs to water supply systems ... ... ... ... | 2 |
| Miscellaneous ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 63 |
| Staircases repaired or renewed ... ... ... ... ... | 3 |

### Houses Improved with the Help of Financial Grants

| | |
|---|---|
| Total number of schemes submitted to the Council ... ... | 19 |
| Number of dwellings affected by the schemes ... ... ... | 19 |
| Number of schemes completed by the end of the year ... | 17 |
| Additional dwellings provided ... ... ... ... ... | — |

### New Dwellings Erected During the Year

| | *Houses* | *Flats* |
|---|---|---|
| By the City Council ... ... ... ... ... | 164 | 70 |
| By private persons ... ... ... ... ... | 84 | — |
| Total ... ... | 248 | 70 |

### Overcrowding

### Housing Act, 1936....Part IV

At 31st December, 1959, 4 families in the City were overcrowded. This is 2 more than there were at the end of 1958.

During the year 9 cases of overcrowding were abated.

The ways in which the overcrowding was abated are shown in the table overleaf....

### Abatement of Overcrowding during 1959

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | Cases rehoused by the City Council ... ... ... | 9 |
| 2. | Cases abated following warnings given by the Health Department ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | — |
| 3. | Cases abated following legal proceedings ... ... ... | — |
| 4. | Cases abated either by voluntary action on the part of the families concerned or by changed circumstances, e.g., a death in the family or a member leaving home for reasons of work ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | — |
| | Total cases abated... | 9 |

### Overcrowding Position during 1959

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | Cases remaining at 3-12-58 ... ... ... ... | 2 |
| 2. | Number of new cases reported during 1959 ... ... | 11 |
| 3. | (a) Number of cases abated during 1959 ... ... ... | 9 |
| | (b) Number of persons concerned in (a) above ... ... | 13 |
| 4. | Number of cases of overcrowding in Council houses which were abated during the year ... ... ... ... | — |
| 5. | (a) Number of dwellings which remained overcrowded at the end of 1959 ... ... ... ... ... ... | 4 |
| | (b) Number of families dwelling in these houses ... ... | 13 |
| | (c) Number of persons dwelling in these houses ... ... | 51 |

There were no cases during the year in which houses became again overcrowded after the Council had taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding.

## SANITARY CONDITIONS IN SCHOOLS

Routine inspections of all the schools situated in the City were made by the Public Health Inspectors during the year.

Information concerning the present sanitary, drinking, and washing arrangements, etc., in the schools is given in Table I below, and the improvements made during 1959 is given in Table II.

### TABLE I

| | |
|---|---|
| Total number of schools in the City ... ... ... ... | 38 |
| Number with fresh water closets only ... ... ... ... | 37 |
| Number with trough closets ... ... ... ... ... | 1 |
| Number with unsatisfactory yard surfaces ... ... ... | 3 |
| Number with inadequate washing facilities ... ... ... | 21 |
| Number with inadequate drinking facilities ... ... ... | — |

## TABLE II

SKERTON BOYS' SECONDARY MODERN—One additional W.C. installed.

NEWTON COUNTY PRIMARY—Two new washhand basins installed in classroom.

ST. THOMAS' GIRLS' SECONDARY MODERN—New kitchen constructed.

STOREY INSTITUTE TECHNICAL COLLEGE—New water heater in Room 21.

STOREY INSTITUTE HANDICRAFT CENTRE—Two new W.C.s provided.

FRIENDS' SCHOOL, FENTON ST.—One new W.C. provided. One W.C. re-constructed.

CATHEDRAL R.C. SECONDARY MODERN—Boys' urinal repaired and glazed slabs fitted in place of slate. Roof drainage of girls' W.C.s altered.

GREAVES SECONDARY MODERN—Washhand basin in kitchen renewed.

ST. BERNADETTE'S R.C. INFANTS—New yard surface laid.

SCOTFORTH C. OF E.—Two new classrooms built — with sanitary accommodation, etc.

## PLACES OF ENTERTAINMENT

Seventeen inspections of places of public entertainment were made during the course of the year. No conditions were recorded which would necessitate the City Council taking further action.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

**The administration of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, and Milk and Dairies Regulations.**

### Milk Supply: Supervision and Distribution

During the year Public Health Inspectors made a total of 18 inspections of the 8 dairies situated in the City.

### Average Daily Consumption of Milk

The average daily consumption of milk per head of the population fell slightly from 0·72 pints to 0·67 pints.

The proportion of pasteurised milk consumed in the City increased from 71·83% in 1958 to 77·32% in 1959. The amount of sterilised milk fell from 8·05% in 1958 to 1·64% in 1959. The consumption of heat treated milk (i.e., pasteurised and sterilised) fell by 0·90% during 1959.

| *Description* | *Daily Consumption in Gallons* | *Per centum of Whole* |
|---|---|---|
| Non-descript Raw Milk ... ... ... | 30 | ·73% |
| Tuberculin Tested Milk ... ... ... | 840 | 20·31% |
| Pasteurised Milk ... ... ... ... | 1,640 | 39·65% |
| T.T. (Pasteurised) Milk ... ... ... | 1,558 | 37·67% |
| Sterilised Milk ... ... ... ... ... | 68 | 1·64% |
| Total ... ... ... ... ... | 4,136 | 100·00% |

Average daily consumption in pints per head of population...0·67 pints

| **Quantity of Milk Bottled (in gallons)** | *Amount bottled Outside the City (in gals. per day)* | *Amount bottled in the City (in gals. per day)* |
|---|---|---|
| Non-descript Raw Milk ... ... ... | — | — |
| Tuberculin Tested Milk ... ... ... | 778 | 92 |
| Pasteurised Milk ... ... ... ... | 397 | 1,243 |
| T.T. (Pasteurised) Milk ... ... ... | 525 | 1,033 |
| Sterilised Milk ... ... ... ... | 68 | — |
| | 1,768 | 2,368 |

## Milk (Special Designations) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949

## Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949

Information concerning the number of licences issued under the above-mentioned Regulations during 1959 is given below:—

Tuberculin Tested Milk: Bottling, Nil. Dealers other than bottlers, 81.

Pasteurised Milk: Pasteurising Plant, 1. Dealers, 80.

Sterilised Milk: Dealers, 81.

## Samping of Milk for Bacteriological and Biological, etc., Test

### TESTS FOR TUBERCLE IN MILK

Information concerning the number of samples and grades of milk submitted for biological tests for the presence of tubercle bacilli and the results of the tests is given in the following table.

### TESTS FOR TUBERCLE IN MILK

| | Nondescript Raw Milk | Tuberculin Tested Milk |
|---|---|---|
| Total Number Taken ... ... ... | 1 | 104 |
| Number Negative ... ... ... ... | 1 | 104 |
| Number Positive ... ... ... ... | — | — |
| No Result ... ... ... ... ... | — | — |
| Percentage Positive ... ... ... | — | — |

## Sampling of Milk for Good Keeping Quality and for Evidence of Adequate Pasteurisation or Sterilisation

Information concerning the testing of milk for good keeping quality and fod adequate heat treatment is given in the following tables.

### SAMPLES OF MILK TAKEN FOR METHYLENE BLUE AND B.COLI. TESTS

| | Nondescript Raw Milk | Tuberculin Tested Milk | Pasteurised Milk | Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Total Number Taken ... ... | 1 | 104 | 39 | 31 |
| Number Satisfactory ... ... | — | 83 | 39 | 30 |
| Number Unsatisfactory ... | 1 | 21 | — | 1 |
| No Result ... ... ... ... | — | — | — | — |
| Percentage Unsatisfactory ... | 100% | 20·19% | — | 3·23% |

### SAMPLES OF MILK TAKEN FOR PHOSPHATASE TESTS

| | Pasteurised Milk | Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) Milk |
|---|---|---|
| Total Number Taken ... ... ... | 39 | 31 |
| Number Satisfactory ... ... ... | 39 | 31 |
| Number Unsatisfactory ... ... ... | — | — |
| No Result ... ... ... ... ... | — | — |
| Percentage Unsatisfactory ... ... | — | — |

### SAMPLES OF MILK TAKEN FOR BRUCELLA ABORTUS TESTS

| | Nondescript Raw Milk | Tuberculin Tested Milk |
|---|---|---|
| Total Number Taken ... ... ... | 1 | 104 |
| Number Satisfactory ... ... ... | — | 94 |
| No. Positive Whey Agglutination Test | — | 6 |
| No Test done ... ... ... ... ... | 1 | 4 |
| Percent Pos. Whey Agglutination Test | — | 5·77% |

### SAMPLES OF STERILISED MILK TAKEN FOR TURBIDITY TEST

Number taken: 5. Results all satisfactory.

### Observation on Results of Tests

Very little nondescript raw milk was sold in the City during 1959. Over the last ten years or so, there has been a steady decline in the consumption of raw non-designated milk and an increase in the consumption of heat treated milk. For example, eleven years ago, 59% of the milk consumed in Lancaster was non-designated raw milk, but during 1959, about 77% of the milk consumed was pasteurised. There was, however, a sharp decline in the consumption of sterilised milk.

On the whole, the milk supply of the City during 1959 was found to be up to a satisfactory standard. It will be seen from the tables that only one sample of pasteurised milk failed the Methylene Blue test, and all samples were found by the Phosphatase test to have been properly heat treated. The average daily consumption of milk per head of the population fell from 0·72% pints in 1958, to 0·67% pints in 1959.

## Bacteriological and Chemical Examination of Ice Cream

### Bacteriological Examination

Out of 16 samples of ice cream taken for bacteriological examination 14 were placed in Grade 1 which indicates these samples were highly satisfactory, one sample was placed in Grade 2 and 1 in Grade 4.

### BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION

| No. of Samples Taken | Methylene Blue Decolourisation Test | | B. Coli | | Ministry of Health Provisional Grades | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Satisfactory | Unsatisfactory | Absent Satisfactory | Present Unsatisfactory | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 16 | 15 | 1 | 16 | — | 14 | 1 | — | 1 |

## Chemical Examination

No sample of ice cream sent for analysis contained less than the legal minimum of 5% fat. The majority of samples contained over 10%.

### TABLE SHOWING FAT CONTENT

| No. of Samples Taken | Under 5·0% | 5·0% - 7·5% - | 7·5% 10·0% | Over 10·0% |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 8 | — | 1 | — | 7 |

## Bacteriological Examination of Foodstuffs in General

The table overleaf gives information concerning the results of routine bacteriological examination of food. There is no legal standard for assessing whether a food is hygienically satisfactory when sold to the consumer, but an arbitrary standard has been agreed with the Public Laboratory Service. For a sample to be deemed hygienically satisfactory it should have:—

### COOKED FOODS

Less than 100,000 organisms per gramme at 37°C.
Less than 500,000 organisms per gramme at 22°C.
Faecal coli should be absent in 0.1 gramme.
Staphylococci coagulase + absent in 1 gramme.
Salmonella absent in 50 grammes.

### RAW MEAT PRODUCTS

Less than 2,000,000 organisms per gramme at 37°C.
Less than 5,000,000 organisms per gramme at 22°C.
Faecal coli should be absent in 0·01 gramme.
Staphylococci coagulase + absent in 0·1 gramme.
Salmonella absent in 50 grammes.

### DEEP FROZEN RAW MEAT PRODUCTS

Less than 500,000 organisms per gramme at 37°C.
Less than 2,000,000 organisms per gramme at 22°C.
Faecal coli should be absent in 0·1 gramme.
Staphylococci coagulase + absent in 0·1 gramme.
Salmonella absent in 50 grammes.

| Sample | No. Taken | Satisfactory | Unsatisfactory | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | No. | % |
| Cooked Meat ... ... ... | 33 | 13 | 20 | 60·61 |
| Cream Cakes ... ... ... | 13 | 10 | 3 | 23·08 |
| Chocolate Cake ... ... ... | 1 | 1 | — | — |
| Meat and Potato Pie ... ... | 1 | 1 | — | — |
| Meat Pies ... ... ... ... | 12 | 9 | 3 | 25·00 |
| Pork Luncheon Meat ... ... | 6 | 2 | 4 | 66·66 |
| Sausages ... ... ... ... ... | 7 | 1 | 6 | 85·11 |
| Potted Salmon ... ... ... | 1 | 1 | — | — |
| Fish Cakes ... ... ... ... | 12 | 3 | 9 | 75·00 |
| Cream (Synthetic) ... ... | 4 | 2 | 2 | 50·00 |
| Tinned Steak ... ... ... | 1 | 1 | — | — |
| Trifle ... ... ... ... ... | 1 | — | 1 | 100·00 |
| Potato Mash ... ... ... | 1 | 1 | — | — |
| Custard Tarts ... ... ... | 5 | 4 | 1 | 20·00 |
| Doughnuts ... ... ... ... | 1 | — | 1 | 100·00 |
| Custard Mix ... ... ... ... | 2 | — | 2 | 100·00 |
| Milk Powder ... ... ... | 1 | 1 | — | — |
| Custard Powder ... ... ... | 1 | 1 | — | — |
| Corned Beef ...... ... ... | 5 | 3 | 2 | 40·00 |
| Potted Shrimps ... ... ... | 2 | 1 | 1 | 50·00 |
| Raw Meat (for sausages) ... | 2 | 1 | 1 | 50·00 |
| | 112 | 56 | 56 | — |

The number of samples of some kinds of food examined during the year was insufficient to draw worthwhile general conclusions. It is significant, however, that those foods, e.g., cooked meats and made-up dishes such as fish cakes, sausages, etc., which have often been the cause of food poisoning outbreaks, had a high percentage failure. Many of these samples were the products of firms whose premises are outside the City. Unsatisfactory samples from Lancaster firms were followed up by visits to the premises by the Health Inspectors, and subsequent samples from these firms were generally found to be satisfactory.

Food traders need to be continually reminded of the need for a high standard of cleanliness in all branches of their work, and that food borne diseases are preventable.

## Meat and Other Foods

The following are particulars of meat inspection carried out by your Public Health Inspectors during the year at the abattoir.

NUMBER OF ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED AND INSPECTED AT ABATTOIR

| | Cattle excluding Cows | Cows | Calves | Sheep and Lambs | Pigs |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Number killed ... ... ... ... | 2,934 | 173 | 120 | 17,143 | 9,768 |
| Number Inspected ... ... ... | 2,934 | 173 | 120 | 17,143 | 9,768 |
| All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci: | | | | | |
| Whole carcases condemned ... | 2 | 9 | 6 | 29 | 33 |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ... | 2,018 | 160 | 1 | 654 | 975 |
| Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci ... ... ... ... | 68·85% | 97·69% | 5·83% | 3·98% | 10·32% |
| Tuberculosis only: | | | | | |
| Whole carcases condemned ... | 2 | 1 | — | — | 1 |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ... | 90 | 17 | — | — | 157 |
| Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis ... ... ... ... | 3·14% | 10·40% | — | — | 1·62% |
| Cysterceosis: | | | | | |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ... | 8 | — | — | — | — |
| Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration ... ... | 8 | — | — | — | — |
| Generalised and totally condemned ... ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | — |

## Total Units Killed and Inspected

| | *Cattle* | *Calves* | *Sheep* | *Pigs* | *Total* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1956 ... ... | 31,390 ... | 696 ... | 22,658 ... | 23,979 ... | 78,723 |
| 1957 ... ... | 33,040 ... | 417 ... | 21,966 ... | 25,719 ... | 81,142 |
| 1958 ... ... | 35,940 ... | 242 ... | 24,184 ... | 29,547 ... | 89,913 |
| 1959 ... ... | 31,070 ... | 360 ... | 34,286 ... | 29,304 ... | 95,020 |

For conversion from animals killed and inspected to inspection units the following equivalents are used:—

| | |
|---|---|
| One cattle beast ... | 10 units |
| One calf ... ... | 3 units |
| One sheep ... ... | 2 units |
| One pig ... ... | 3 units |

AMOUNT OF MEAT CONDEMNED BY WEIGHT

(*a*) *For Tuberculosis*:

| | *Tons* | *Cwts.* | *Qrs.* | *Lbs.* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cattle ... ... ... ... ... | 1 | 7 | 3 | 10 |
| Calves ... ... ... ... ... | — | — | — | — |
| Sheep ... ... ... ... ... | — | — | — | — |
| Pigs ... ... ... ... ... | — | 16 | 0 | 26 |
| | 2 | 4 | 0 | 8 |

(*b*) *For other Conditions*:

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cattle ... ... ... ... ... | 9 | 2 | 0 | 11 |
| Calves ... ... ... ... ... | 0 | 2 | 3 | 12 |
| Sheep ... ... ... ... ... | 1 | 0 | 3 | 27 |
| Pigs ... ... ... ... ... | 2 | 15 | 3 | 27 |
| | 13 | 1 | 3 | 21 |

**Particulars of Other Foodstuffs Condemned during 1959**

One hundred and fifty visits were made to food shops and stores for the purpose of examining food, and the following amounts of food were condemned as unfit for human consumption. In all cases the food was voluntarily surrendered and the question of legal proceedings did not arise.

| Tinned Goods: | *Tins* | *Tons* | *Cwts.* | *Qrs.* | *Lbs.* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Tinned Meat ... ... | 515 ... | 1 | 4 | 3 | 16 |
| Tinned Milk ... ... | 81 ... | 0 | 0 | 2 | 10 |
| Tinned Fish ... ... | 51 ... | 0 | 0 | 0 | 26 |
| Tinned Fruit ... ... | 585 ... | 0 | 5 | 2 | 8 |
| Tinned Vegetables ... | 314 ... | 0 | 2 | 3 | 2 |
| Tinned, Miscellaneous ... | 40 ... | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| | 1,586 | 1 | 14 | 1 | 6 |

| Other Condemned Foods: | *Tons* | *Cwts.* | *Qrs.* | *Lbs.* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Beetroot | — | — | — | 2¼ |
| Butter | — | — | — | 6½ |
| Cheese, Processed | — | — | — | 15 |
| Fish, Cured | — | — | — | 14 |
| Fish, Fresh | — | 2 | — | 14 |
| Fruit, Dried | — | — | 1 | — |
| Fruit, Fresh | — | — | 1 | 20 |
| Ham, Raw | — | — | — | 15 |
| Meat, Cooked | — | — | — | 14¾ |
| Meat, Fresh | — | 2 | — | 9 |
| Lemon Cheese | — | — | — | 14½ |
| Tripe | — | — | 1 | 16 |
| | 0 | 6 | 0 | 1 |

**Routine Inspections of Food Premises**

One of the most effective safeguards against food borne infections is the supervision of food premises by routine inspections. These are also a good form of health education. The following routine inspections of food premises were made by the Public Health Inspectors during 1959:—

| | |
|---|---|
| Canteens | 18 |
| Bakehouses | 95 |
| Butchers' Shops | 55 |
| Meat Stores, Abattoir, etc | 725 |
| Fish Fryers | 48 |
| Restaurant Kitchens, etc. | 72 |
| Ice Cream Premises | 66 |
| Market Stalls | 22 |
| Other food premises | 584 |
| Dairies | 18 |
| Snack Bars, etc. | 69 |
| Public Houses | 25 |
| Food preparing premises | 89 |
| Food Shops | 464 |
| Food Vehicles | 127 |

## Improvements and Repairs Executed in Food Premises Following Action by the Public Health Inspectors

| | |
|---|---|
| Walls decorated | 32 |
| Ceilings decorated | 23 |
| Hot water service provided | 31 |
| Sinks provided | 11 |
| Ventilation improved | 11 |
| Lighting improved | 31 |
| Floor re-covered | 14 |
| Counter surfaces repaired | 8 |
| Protective screens provided | 14 |
| Soap and towels provided | 28 |
| First-aid equipment provided | 10 |
| Notices provided re washing of hands | 27 |
| Washbasins provided | 23 |
| Accommodation for clothing provided | 6 |
| Provision of int. vent. space | 2 |
| Cleanliness improved | 8 |
| Miscellaneous | 14 |
| Provision of dustbins | 5 |
| Exclusion of animals | 5 |
| Use of unsatisfactory room discontinued | 1 |
| Storage facilities provided | 1 |

## Market Hall and Church Street Market

The work of clearing the perimeter of the Market Hall, the building of the new shops and the modernisation of the stalls in the existing Market Hall, is expected to commence during the first half of 1960.

There remains the need to deal with the unhygienic conditions in Church Street Open Air Market. This should receive consideration without further delay.

## Public Abattoir

Once again it is necessary to report that the buildings and arrangements at the Public Abattoir are below standard. It is not reasonably practicable to make the premises comply with the Slaughterhouses (Hygiene) Regulations, 1958, nor with the Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations, 1958.

If therefore Lancaster is to remain a slaughtering centre a new abattoir will need to be built within the next three years.

## Sampling and Analysis of Food and Drugs for Adulteration, etc.

The following tables indicate the number and type of samples of food and drugs submitted for analysis during the year.

### MILK

| Number of Samples Taken | Number of poor quality (not adulterated) | Deficient Legal Proceedings not considered warranted | Obviously Adulterated |
|---|---|---|---|
| Formal 56 | 9 | 2 | Nil |

| | *Milk Fat* | *Non-Fatty Solids* | *Water* |
|---|---|---|---|
| Average for the year ... ... | 3·60% | 8·57% | 87·83% |
| Legal minimum standards ... | 3·00% | 8·50% | 88·50% |

## Analysis of Other Food and Drugs

Samples of the following foods were submitted for analysis during the year:—

| *Food or Drug* | *No. of Samples Taken* | *Not Genuine* |
|---|---|---|
| Almonds, Ground ... ... ... ... ... | 1 | — |
| Balsam, Bronchial ... ... ... ... ... | 1 | — |
| Beef, Potted ... ... ... ... ... ... | 1 | — |
| Bread ... ... ... ... ... ... | 1 | 1(a) |
| Butter ... ... ... ... ... ... | 2 | — |
| Butter Rum ... ... ... ... ... ... | 1 | — |
| Cakes, Fish ... ... ... ... ... ... | 2 | — |
| Chocolate ... ... ... ... ... ... | 1 | 1(b) |
| Coffee ... ... ... ... ... ... | 3 | — |
| Crab, Dressed ... ... ... ... ... | 2 | — |
| Cream ... ... ... ... ... ... | 4 | — |
| Cream Salad ... ... ... ... ... ... | 2 | — |
| Cream Whey ... ... ... ... ... ... | 1 | — |
| Cream, Zinc and Castor Oil ... ... ... | 1 | — |
| Currants ... ... ... ... ... ... | 1 | — |
| Filling, Pie ... ... ... ... ... ... | 1 | — |
| Flavour, Rum ... ... ... ... ... | 1 | — |
| Flour, Self Raising ... ... ... ... ... | 1 | — |
| Gin ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 1 | — |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Ham, Devilled | 1 | — |
| Jam | 3 | — |
| Jelly, Table | 3 | — |
| Juice, Lemon | 1 | 1(c) |
| Ketchup, Tomato | 1 | — |
| Lard | 4 | — |
| Lollies, Iced | 3 | 1(d) |
| Margarine | 2 | — |
| Marzipan | 1 | — |
| Meat, Pork Luncheon | 4 | — |
| Mincemeat | 1 | — |
| Mixture, Sponge | 1 | — |
| Oats, Porage | 1 | 1(e) |
| Oil, Camphorated | 1 | — |
| Oil, Castor | 1 | — |
| Oil, Malt and Cod Liver | 1 | — |
| Oil, Olive | 1 | — |
| Oil, Vegetable | 1 | — |
| Paraffin, Liquid | 1 | — |
| Pastry, Puff | 1 | — |
| Powder, Baking | 1 | — |
| Powder, Custard | 2 | — |
| Powder, Soup | 1 | — |
| Pudding, Christmas | 1 | — |
| Pudding, Rice Creamed | 1 | — |
| Puree, Tomato | 1 | — |
| Rice | 1 | 1(f) |
| Rum | 2 | — |
| Salmon | 1 | — |
| Salts, Epsom | 1 | — |
| Salts, Gravy | 1 | — |
| Sauce | 1 | — |
| Sausages, Beef | 1 | — |
| Seasoning, Liquid Pepper, Tobasco | 1 | — |
| Soda, Bicarbonate of | 1 | — |
| Soup, Mushroom | 1 | — |
| Spread, Cheese | 3 | — |
| Spread, Salmon | 2 | — |
| Squash, Orange | 1 | — |
| Suet, Beet | 1 | — |
| Sweets, Throat, Antiseptic | 1 | — |
| Syrup, Rose Hip | 1 | — |
| Tablets, Backache | 1 | — |
| Tablets, Pain Relief | 1 | — |
| Tablets, Saccharin | 1 | — |
| Tea | 3 | — |
| Vinegar, Malt | 2 | — |
| Whisky | 1 | — |
| Wine (Port type) | 1 | — |

(a) Contained carbon stains, oil and excess iron due to fault in machine. Bakers interviewed.

(b) Contained mineral oil and iron due to fault in packing machine.

(c) Mineral constituents abnormally low. Packers warned.

(d) Contravention re labelling of food. Packers warned.

(e) Found to be rancied due to age of stock which was surrendered and destroyed.

(f) Contained butylated hydroxytoluene, also packet contravened labelling of food order. Imported product. Importation ceased after warning sent to importers.

## WATER SUPPLY

### Sources, Purification and Distribution

No actual alterations in the sources of supply of water were made during the year. The water at present is partly moorland surface water from the Council's own catchment area, and partly from Manchester's Thirlmere supply, and is subjected to mechanical filtration and chlorination. Plans for abstracting 8 million gallons per day from the River Lune are completed and the draft Order authorising the project has been submitted to the Minister.

14,171 dwelling houses have an internal piped supply, two houses rely on a common standpipe and one house is supplied from a stream. This last house is situated in the rural part of the area, and it has not been reasonably practicable to provide a piped supply.

### Sampling of Tap Water

Eighty-three samples of tap water from houses were submitted for bacteriological examination. The reports, abstracts of which are given in the following table, indicate that generally the supply was satisfactory.

## EXTRACTS FROM REPORTS ON BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF TAP WATER

| Date | Aerobic micro-organisms growing in Yeastral Agar | Probable No. of Coliform organisms per 100 c.c. of water | Ward Sample Taken | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | In 2 days at 37° C. | | | |
| 26· 1·59 | — | — | Park | |
| ,, | 3 | — | Park | |
| ,, | — | — | Bulk | |
| 3· 3·59 | — | — | Scotforth | |
| ,, | — | — | Scotforth | |
| ,, | 3 | — | Bulk | |
| 27· 4·59 | — | — | Scotforth | |
| ,, | — | — | J.O.G. | |
| ,, | 1 | — | Bulk | |
| 13· 5·59 | 5 | 3 | Bulk | |
| 26· 5·59 | 1 | — | J.O.G. | |
| ,, | 8 | 8 | J.O.G. | |
| ,, | — | — | St. Annes | |
| 27· 5·59 | — | — | Bulk | |
| 3· 6·59 | — | — | J.O.G. | |
| ,, | — | — | J.O.G. | |
| 23· 6·59 | — | — | Scotforth | |
| ,, | — | — | Scotforth | |
| ,, | — | — | Bulk | |
| ,, | — | — | Park | |
| 20· 7·59 | — | — | Scotforth | |
| ,, | — | — | J.O.G. | |
| ,, | — | — | Bulk | |
| 5· 8·59 | 90 | — | Scotforth | |
| ,, | — | — | J.O.G. | |
| ,, | — | — | Park | |
| ,, | — | — | Park | |
| 11· 8·59 | — | — | Park | |
| ,, | — | — | Bulk | |
| 12· 8·59 | 35 | — | Scotforth | |
| ,, | 25 | — | Scotforth | |
| 19· 8·59 | 1 | — | Scotforth | |
| ,, | 1 | — | Scotforth | |
| ,, | — | — | Park | |
| ,, | — | — | Bulk | |
| ,, | 1 | — | Scotforth | |
| ,, | — | — | J.O.G. | |
| ,, | — | — | Bulk | |
| 27· 8·59 | — | — | Park | |
| 2· 9·59 | — | — | Scotforth | |
| ,, | — | — | Park | |
| 9· 9·59 | — | — | Park | |
| 15· 9·59 | — | — | Park | |
| 23· 9·59 | — | — | J.O.G. | |
| ,, | — | — | J.O.G. | |
| ,, | — | — | Park | |
| ,, | — | — | Bulk | |

| Date | Aerobic micro-organisms growing in Yeastral Agar | Probable No. of Coliform organisms per 100 c.c. of water | Ward Sample Taken | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | In 2 days at 37° C. | | | |
| 30· 9·59 | — | — | Park | |
| 7·10·59 | — | — | Park | |
| 14·10·59 | — | — | Scotforth | |
| ,, | — | — | J.O.G. | |
| ,, | — | — | Park | |
| 19·10·59 | — | — | J.O.G. | |
| ,, | 9 | 1 | J.O.G. | |
| ,, | 1 | — | Park | |
| 27·10·59 | 1 | 1 | J.O.G. | |
| ,, | — | — | Scotforth | |
| ,, | 4 | — | Park | |
| 4·11·59 | 2 | — | Park | |
| ,, | 11 | — | J.O.G. | |
| 11·11·59 | 5 | — | J.O.G. | |
| ,, | 10 | — | J.O.G. | |
| ,, | — | — | Park | |
| 17·11·59 | 8 | — | J.O.G. | |
| ,, | 5 | — | J.O.G. | |
| ,, | — | — | Park | |
| ,, | — | — | St. Annes | |
| 25·11·59 | — | — | J.O.G. | |
| ,, | 8 | — | J.O.G. | |
| ,, | — | — | J.O.G. | |
| ,, | — | — | J.O.G. | |
| ,, | — | — | J.O.G. | |
| ,, | — | — | J.O.G. | |
| ,, | 1 | — | Park | |
| 2·12·59 | — | — | J.O.G. | |
| ,, | 1 | — | J.O.G. | |
| ,, | 2 | — | J.O.G. | |
| ,, | — | — | Park | |
| 8·12·59 | — | — | J.O.G. | |
| ,, | — | — | Park | |
| 15·12·59 | — | — | J.O.G. | |
| ,, | — | — | J.O.G. | |
| ,, | — | — | Park | |
| | | — | | |

## Bacteriological Examination of Swimming Bath Water

| Date | Aerobic micro-organisms growing in Yeastral Agar 2 days at 37° C | Prob. No. of coliform organisms per 100 c.c. of water | Bath from which Sample was Taken | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 26· 1·59 | — | — | Corporation Minor Plunge | |
| 3· 3·59 | — | 15 | Corporation Minor Plunge | |
| 27· 4·59 | — | — | Corporation Minor Plunge | |
| " | — | — | Corporation Major Plunge | |
| 26· 5·59 | 16 | — | Corporation Minor Plunge | |
| " | > 5,000 | 8 | Corporation Major Plunge | Bact. coli. 8 |
| 3· 6·59 | 13 | — | Corporation Minor Plunge | |
| " | > 10,000 | 7 | Corporation Major Plunge | Bact. coli. 7 |
| " | > 10,000 | 25 | Corporation outlet from plunges | Bact. coli. 25 |
| 11· 6·59 | 10 | — | L.R.G.S. | |
| " | 280 | 8 | Corporation Minor Plunge | |
| " | — | — | Corporation Minor Plunge | |
| " | 50 | 1 | Corporation Major Plunge | |
| " | 50 | 5 | Corporation Major Plunge | |
| 17· 6·59 | 230 | 1 | Corporation Minor Plunge | |
| " | 180 | — | Corporation Major Plunge | |
| " | 530 | — | L.R.G.S. | |
| 23· 6·59 | — | — | L.R.G.S. | |
| " | — | — | Corporation Minor Plunge | |
| " | — | — | Corporation Major Plunge | |
| 30· 6·59 | — | — | L.R.G.S. | |
| " | — | — | Corporation Minor Plunge | |
| " | — | — | Corporation Major Plunge | |
| 8· 7·59 | 11 | — | L.R.G.S. | |
| " | 10 | — | Corporation Minor Plunge | |
| " | 30 | — | Corporation Major Plunge | |
| 16· 7·59 | — | — | L.R.G.S. | |
| " | uncountable due to spreading organisms | — | Corporation Minor Plunge | |
| " | — | — | Corporation Major Plunge | |
| 20· 7·59 | 4 | — | L R.G.S. | |
| " | — | — | Corporation Minor Plunge | |
| 28· 7·59 | 7 | — | Corporation Minor Plunge | |
| " | 10 | — | Corporation Major Plunge | |
| 5· 8·59 | 1 | — | Corporation Minor Plunge | |
| " | 2 | — | Corporation Major Plunge | |
| 11· 8·59 | 3 | — | Corporation Minor Plunge | |
| " | 3 | — | Corporation Major Plunge | |
| 19· 8·59 | — | — | Corporation Minor Plunge | |
| " | — | — | Corporation Major Plunge | |
| 27· 8·59 | — | 1 | Corporation Minor Plunge | |
| " | — | — | Corporation Major Plunge | |
| 2· 9·59 | 12 | — | Corporation Minor Plunge | |
| " | 10 | — | Corporation Major Plunge | |
| 9· 9·59 | 3 | — | Corporation Minor Plunge | |
| " | 8 | — | Corporation Major Plunge | |

| Date | Aerobic micro-organisms growing in Yeastral Agar 2 days at 37° C· | Prob. No. of coliform organisms per 100 c.c. of water | Bath from which Sample was Taken | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 15· 9·59 | 5 | — | Corporation Minor Plunge | |
| ” | — | 1 | Corporation Major Plunge | |
| 23· 9·59 | 325 | 17 | Corporation Minor Plunge | Bact. coli. 17 |
| ” | uncountable due to spreading organisms | — | Corporation Major Plunge | |
| 30· 9·59 | — | 1 | Corporation Minor Plunge | |
| “ | — | — | Corporation Major Plunge | |
| 7·10·59 | 20 | — | Corporation Minor Plunge | |
| 14·10·59 | 267 | — | Corporation Minor Plunge | |
| 19·10·59 | > 1,000 | 3 | Corporation Minor Plunge | Bact. coli. 1 |
| 4·11·59 | > 1,000 | — | Corporation Minor Plunge | |
| 11·11·59 | 275 | — | Corporation Minor Plunge | |
| 17·11·59 | 53 | 1 | Corporation Minor Plunge | |
| 25·11·59 | 172 | — | Corporation Minor Plunge | |
| 2·12·59 | 576 | — | Corporation Minor Plunge | |
| 8·12·59 | 85 | — | Corporation Minor Plunge | |
| 15·12·59 | 95 | — | Corporation Minor Plunge | |

## Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

Details of the premises visited, number found to be infested, and information concerning treatment are given in the following tables:—

### Surface Treatment

| | Type of Property | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Non-Agricultural | | | | |
| | Local Authority | Dw'lling Houses (includ'g Council Houses) (2) | All Other (includ'g Business Premises) (3) | Total of Columns (1), (2) and (3) (4) | Agricultural (5) |
| I. Number of properties in Local Authority's District ... | 36 | 14,174 | 2,550 | 16,760 | 20 |
| II. Number of properties inspected as a result of: | | | | | |
| (a) Notification ... ... ... | 5 | 87 | 103 | 195 | 2 |
| (b) Survey under the Act ... | 2 | 27 | 64 | 93 | 9 |
| (c) Otherwise (e.g., when visited primarily for some other purpose) ... | — | — | — | — | — |
| III. Total inspections carried out —including re-inspections ... | 27 | 504 | 579 | 1,110 | 27 |
| IV. Number of properties inspected (in Sect. II) which were found to be infested by: | | | | | |
| (a) Rats Major ... ... | — | — | — | — | 1 |
| Minor ... ... | 1 | 13 | 34 | 48 | 1 |
| (b) Mice Major ... ... | 2 | 1 | 5 | 8 | — |
| Minor ... ... | 1 | 19 | 45 | 65 | — |
| V. Number of infested properties (in Sect IV) treated by Local Authority ... ... ... | — | 33 | 90 | 122 | 2 |
| VI. Total treatments carried out —including re-treatments ... | — | 33 | 90 | 122 | 2 |
| VII. Number of Notices served under Sect. 4 of the Act: | | | | | |
| (a) Treatment ... ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | — |
| (b) Structural work (i.e., proofing) ... ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | — |
| VIII. Number of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under Sect. 4 of the Act ... ... ... ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | — |
| IX. Legal proceedings ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | — |
| X. Number of "block" control schemes carried out ... ... | — | — | — | — | — |

### SEWER TREATMENT

Total number of manholes in the City: 1,470.

Treatment Number: No. 1; No. 2.

Total number of manholes in area treated: No. 1, 462; No. 2, 252.

Number of manholes treated: No. 1, 452; No. 2, 252.

Date treatment began: No. 1, 11/6/59; No. 2, 30/11/59.

Poison used: No. 1, Zinc Phosphide; No. 2, Arsenious Oxide, Paranitrophenol.

Bait used: No. 1, Sausage Rusk; No. 2, Bread Rusk.

Baiting sequence (e.g., 1-4-8, "direct", etc.): No. 1, 1-4-8; No. 2 irregular.

Number of manholes showing take: No. 1, 220; No. 2, 196.

## Disinfection and Disinfestation of Premises, etc.

Information concerning the disinfection and disinfestation of premises and articles carried out during the year is given in the following tables:—

### DISINFECTION (PREMISES)

| Premises Disinfected | | | Single Rooms Disinfected | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| No. of Whole Houses | No. of Ships | No. of other Premises | In Houses | In Ships | In other Premises |
| 15 | — | 2 | 24 | — | 2 |

### DISINFECTION (BOOKS AND OTHER ARTICLES)

| Books Disinfected | | Other Articles | Articles Destroyed | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Public Library | Private Library | | Books | Other Articles |
| 234 | 1 | 31 | — | 12 |

## Insect Pest Control

Eight houses, 2 Council owned and 6 others, 3 other premises and 27 single rooms were disinfested by means of liquid insecticides, and 93 van of furniture were fumigated with HCN during rehousing operations. Fuller information is given in the table below.

| Type of premises treated | Type of Infestation | | | | | Single Rooms |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Bugs | Fleas | Ants | Cock-roaches | Others | |
| Corporation Houses ... | 1<br>6 rooms | 1<br>5 rooms | — | — | — | 14 |
| Other Houses ... ... | 2<br>5 rooms | 3<br>19 rooms | 1<br>2 rooms | — | — | 12 |
| Other Premises ... ... | — | — | 2<br>5 rooms | 1<br>8 rooms | 2* | 1 |
| Totals ... | 3<br>11 rooms | 4<br>24 rooms | 3<br>7 rooms | 1<br>8 rooms | 2* | 27 |

* 2 swarms of bees.

## LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

Nil.

SECTION "E"

# PORT HEALTH

# LANCASTER PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

The use of the port is mainly confined to a small amount of coastal traffic and similar cargo boats from the Continent. In view of this the more elaborate arrangements required in a larger port are not called for here.

## Section 1—Staff

| Name of Officer | Nature of Appointment | Date of Appointment | Qualifications | Any Other Appointments Held |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Robert W. Farquhar | Port M.O.H. | 1/7/52 | B Sc. (Agri.), M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. | Divisional M.O.H., Health Division No. 2<br>M.O.H., Carnforth U.D.C.<br>M.O.H., City of Lancaster.<br>M.O.H., Lancaster R.D.C.<br>M.O.H., Lunesdale R.D.C. |
| Frederick Shaw | Inspector to Port Health Authority | 1/12/43 | Cert. of R.S.I. and S.I. Joint Board; D.P.A.; F.R S.H. | Chief Public Health Inspector, City of Lancaster. |

## Section II

### Amount of Shipping Entering the District during the Year

| Ships from | Number | Registered Tonnage | Number Inspected | | Number of Ships reported as having or having had during the voyage infectious disease on board |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | By the Medical Officer of Health | By the Public Health Inspector | |
| Foreign Ports ... | 6 | 1,407 | — | 6 | — |
| Coastwise ... ... | 17 | 3.280 | — | — | — |
| TOTAL ... ... | 23 | 4,687 | — | 6 | — |

## Section III

## Character of Shipping and Trade during the Year

Passenger Traffic ... Number of passengers INWARDS ... ... Nil
Number of passengers OUTWARDS ... Nil

Principal IMPORTS: Slag, Clay, Linseed Oil, Coke Breeze, Fertilizers.

Principal EXPORTS:

Principal Ports from which ships arrive:—

Foreign — Rouen, Hamburg, Rotterdam, Dublin.

Coastwise — Par, Penmaenmawr.

## Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

## Prevention of Damage by Pests (Application to Shipping) Order, 1951

Number of Rodent Control Certificates issued — 25

## Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1937

Part I of the Act

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

INSPECTIONS

| Premises | Number on Register | Number of | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Inspections | Written Notices | Occupiers Prosecuted |
| Without mechanical power .. | 29 | 10 | 3 | — |
| With mechanical power ... | 179 | 27 | 4 | — |
| Other premises ... ... ... | 2 | 2 | 1 | — |
| Total ... ... ... ... | 210 | 39 | 8 | — |

2. Cases in which defects were found. (If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more " cases ").

DEFECTS FOUND

| | Number of cases in which defects were found | | | | Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Referred | | |
| | Found | Remedied | To H.M. Inspector | By H.M. Inspector | |
| Want of Cleanliness (S.1) ... | — | — | — | — | — |
| Overcrowding (S.2) ... ... | — | — | — | — | — |
| Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ... ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | — |
| Inadequate ventilation (S.4) .. | — | — | — | — | — |
| Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ... ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | — |
| Sanitary Conveniences (S.7): — | | | | | |
| (a) Insufficient ... | 1 | 2 | — | 1 | — |
| (b) Unsuitable or defective ... | 9 | 17 | — | 1 | — |
| (c) Not separate for sexes ... | — | — | — | — | — |
| Other offences ... ... ... | 1 | 2 | — | — | — |
| Total ... ... ... | 11 | 21 | — | 2 | — |

1 Outworker (Wearing Apparel)—Satisfactory.

" HERALD," PRESTON